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Price index rises by 12% in February

By AVI TEMKIN
Post Economic Reporter

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) went up by 12 per cent last month, meaning that prices have risen by just over 100 per cent since last September, according to figures released yesterday by the Central Bureau of Statistics.

It was the fifth consecutive month of two-digit monthly inflation. February's price increases brought the CPI to 2,539.8 on a baseline of 100 in 1980.

Since last September prices have increased by 100.3 per cent, almost equalizing the 1981 annual inflation rate. At this rate, inflation in 1984 will reach 430 per cent.

The CBS estimates that prices in March are already some 7 per cent higher than February's average.

If prices continue to rise this month at February's rate, a 10 to 12 per cent inflation rate is likely to be registered for March as well.

March inflation will determine the cost-of-living allowance that workers will get in their April pay packets. If the inflation rate reaches 12 per cent in March, then the wage adjustment will total some 40 per cent.

The February price increases brought to IS94,000 the amount of money an average urban family of

four needs to buy the same basket of goods and services it could buy with IS3,680 in 1980.

Reacting to the inflation figure the Treasury said yesterday that it is still too high and reflects the need to implement consistently a policy of budget and wage restraint.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, interviewed yesterday in Eilat, said the government was "not surprised" by the February price rises. As for the idea of a package deal with the Histadrut, Shamir said it was a good way to improve the state of the economy, but it had to be done "at the right time."

A spokesman for the Manufacturers Association yesterday said that the industrialists view with concern the continuing inflationary spiral, which now stands at an annual 350 per cent rate (on the basis of the January-February rises).

February's rate of inflation was the highest ever recorded for the month since the founding of the state. During the past four years, the CPI increased by 5 to 6 per cent in February.

The rate of price increases for last month was widely interpreted by economic observers as a sign that inflation is stabilizing at a very high

(Continued on Page 13)

Rabbi Zohar draws a crowd to condemn Shabbat cinema

By MICHAEL EILAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

PETAH TIKVA. — Former entertainer Rabbi Uri Zohar addressed a mass rally in Petah Tikva last night as the struggle over Sabbath cinema shows moved into a new and more intensive stage.

Chief Rabbi Avraham Shapira and Mordechai Eliyahu gave the Petah Tikva anti-Shabbat-cinema coalition extraordinary backing yesterday, when they summoned an unprecedented meeting of the Chief Rabbinate Council in Petah Tikva.

A statement issued during their meeting said that thousands of Jewish students from all over the country will be bused to demonstrate in Petah Tikva if the government does not stop the 10 p.m. show at the Heichal Cinema on Friday nights. They also plan to summon a meeting of the country's leading rabbis in Petah Tikva next week.

The religious coalition plans a mass demonstration near the

cinema tonight. Last night, a rally addressed by Zohar drew thousands of people to the plaza near city hall.

Most of those present appeared to be part of the religious demonstration and had come to hear Zohar talk against Sabbath desecration. But quite a large part of the crowd seemed to have come just to hear and see Zohar, who has remained in relative seclusion ever since he became deeply observant.

There was some minor scuffling when a small group of people who support the opening of commercial entertainment places on Shabbat tried to hoist placards against Zohar. But the scuffle aroused much less attention than the news that model Pinna Rosenblum was also demonstrating there, though nobody seemed to have seen her.

The statement issued by the Chief Rabbinate Council called on the government, and not the Petah Tikva Municipality, to close the Heichal Cinema on Shabbat. In

(Continued on Page 13)

Agreement reached to end government hospitals strike

By D'VORA BEN SHAUL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Striking government hospital employees who have been working under a court injunction since Monday reached an agreement last night in their negotiations with the Civil Service Commission.

The Finance Ministry spokesman provided no details, but a government workers union official said that "we got all that was important."

Earlier yesterday, representatives of the Finance Ministry's wage division met with the leaders of the Government Nurses' Union. The nurses demanded implementation of a 1972 decision to appoint a committee to study the gap between their working conditions and those of

nurses in the Kupat Holim Clalit hospitals.

Wage-division head Hillel Dudai said last night that the matter had been referred to the labour court, since the wage division and the Histadrut representative could not agree on the interpretation of certain clauses in the nurses' contract, signed in 1976.

Government hospital employees in nursing, service, kitchen, laundry, housekeeping and administrative jobs declared an open-ended strike two weeks ago. They demanded two years retroactive pay increments promised them in order to equalize their pay with that of parallel workers in Kupat Holim Clalit hospitals. The strike ended after six days, after Jerusalem Labour Court Judge Nehemia Guttman handed down an injunction ordering the strikers back to their jobs.

Solutions found

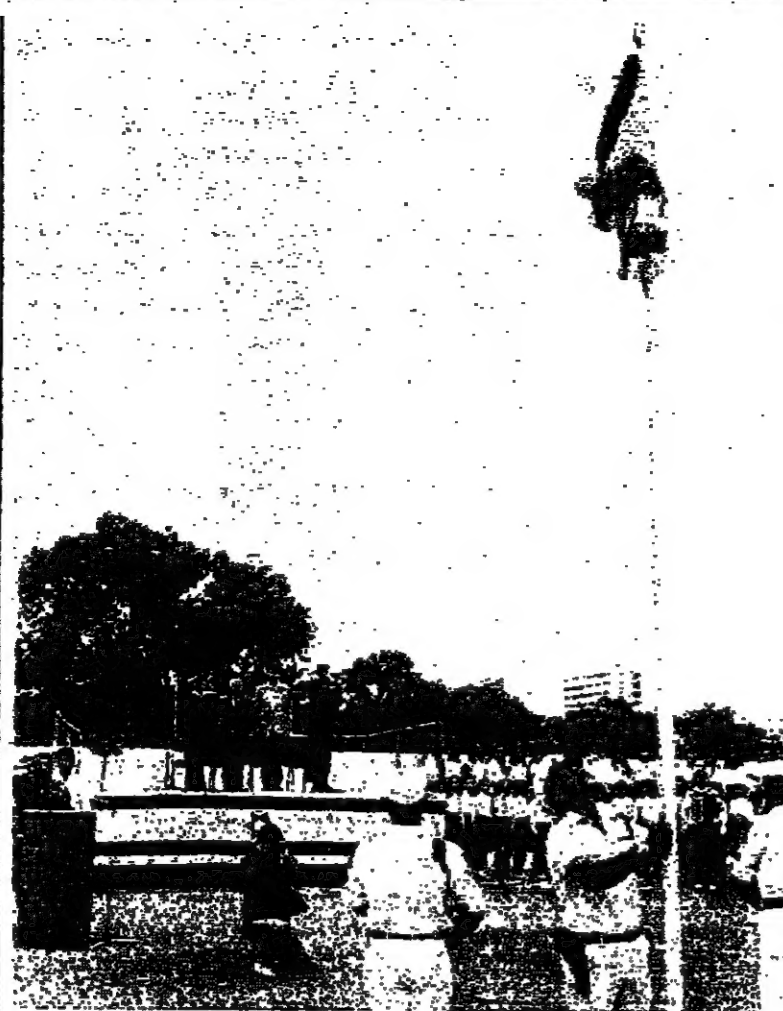
The disputants at Lausanne agree on a radical solution to their strife: a Jerusalem programme is to be presented for a government of national unity, while in Tel Aviv a package deal is being readied for signing.

Full reports in Sunday's *Jerusalem Post* Purim pages.

Plus a unique plan for choosing the next government, reorganization of the Jewish Agency, a review of Dr. Yosef Burg's autobiography, and more. *The Jerusalem Post*, Sunday, Purim.

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A naval officer raises the original hand-made Israeli flag in Eilat yesterday, 35 years after it was first raised at the site, then known as Umm Rashrash, when the area was taken by the IDF in the War of Independence. Prime Minister Shamir watches from the dais. — Story, page 2. (Yitzhak Elharar, Scoop 80)

Khaddam boosts efforts for Lausanne settlement

By DAVID BERNSTEIN
Post Middle East Affairs Reporter
and agencies

Syria's newly appointed first vice-president, Abdul-Halim Khaddam, yesterday stepped up his efforts in Lausanne to hammer out a compromise between the widely diverging positions of the rival camps at the Lebanese National Reconciliation Conference.

Khaddam brought Shiite leader Nabih Berri and Lebanese President Amin Gemayel together for a two-hour meeting following a stormy plenary session, which deeply divided the Christian delegates over the question of Lebanon's relations with Israel.

Berri said after the meeting that Gemayel had agreed to study "positively" his demand that the conference adopt "a detailed plan for saving South Lebanon and removing Israeli occupation forces, secularization of the government and a public admission of the government's responsibility in destroying Beirut's (Shi'ite-inhabited) southern suburbs."

The statement appears to be a significant softening of Berri's position after his meeting with Gemayel, whose resignation he had been demanding over the destruction of the southern suburbs.

A top Lebanese government official was quoted yesterday as saying that Khaddam would bring increasing pressure to bear both on Berri and on his even more intransigent ally, Druse leader Walid Jumblatt, to moderate their positions.

"Khaddam," he said, "will give (Continued on Page 3)

Market rallies

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The share market performed a stunning turnaround as 171 equities advanced by margins of five per cent or more. Only 72 fell by similar margins. Sources close to the exchange suggested that the turnaround was engineered primarily by portfolio managers, brokers and speculators who had sensed that the recent downturn was ready to bottom out. It will be recalled that on Wednesday 353 securities plunged by margins between five and 40 per cent.

IDF reopens Sidon's port

By MENAHEM HOROWITZ
Jerusalem Post Reporter

METULLA. — The port of Sidon was reopened yesterday morning after being closed for 11 days. The port was closed by the Israel Defence Forces after three terrorist explosions wounded 11 soldiers, one of whom died subsequently of his wounds.

Local businessmen who earlier protested to the IDF against the closure were told by Israeli officers that it was inconceivable that some of the fishermen using the port had not known about the laying of explosive charges.

Local civic leaders later distributed leaflets calling on the population not to cooperate with the terrorists and saying that any harm to Israeli personnel would only harm the citizens of Sidon.

The closure of the port led to a slowdown of business in the town as ships were redirected to Beirut.

As the port was reopened yesterday, the IDF beefed up its units in the harbour area.

Bomb thrown in Gaza

GAZA. — A home-made bomb was thrown at an Israel Defence Forces patrol here yesterday shortly after noon. No one was hurt and no damage was caused.

An IDF spokesman said that although there had been a number of incidents in the area in recent weeks, they were seen as the work of disparate, unlinked elements.

"I do not think there is an organized cell," he said. "On the whole, the Gaza District is quiet."

Furore over Hefetz suspension Police 'mini-mutiny' spurs investigation

By ROBERT ROSENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Interior Ministry yesterday launched an internal inquiry to try to dampen what police officers called a "mini-mutiny" inside the force, including demands for action against Tel Aviv police chief Avraham Turgeman. The protests result from Inspector-General Rav Nitzav Arie Ivztan's decision to suspend Nitzav-Mishne Assaf Hefetz this week.

Interior Ministry Director-General Haim Kubersky, in consultation with minister Yosef Burg, who is in Italy, and with the knowledge of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, appointed police controller Nitzav Shmuel Eitan to investigate the circumstances leading to Hefetz's suspension and the treatment of intelligence about the Temple Mount sabotage case sent from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

Kubersky said the ministry investigation, due to last a week, was Ivztan's proposal.

The atmosphere yesterday in police offices throughout the country was tense, with many officers spending the day discussing the events of the past week.

Hefetz was suspended earlier this week after an internal police inquiry ended with suspicions he had

"provided classified information to unauthorized personnel" — a reporter. The suspicions were based on telephone wiretaps on his phone, taps that have outraged many senior officers. *The Jerusalem Post* has learned that there are taps on other officers' phones, and that the phones of at least four newspaper reporters are being tapped.

Hefetz headed the elite Central Department of the Tel Aviv police. *The Post* has learned that yesterday an unprecedented petition was cir-

culating calling for the suspension of Tel Aviv District Commander Nitzav Avraham Turgeman. The petition, signed by about half the officers in the central department, says that Turgeman is "under investigation for matters far more serious than giving information to a newspaper." Turgeman has been the subject of several newspaper reports in which there are allegations of misconduct involving favours for friends.

The man selected to replace Hefetz, his deputy, Sgan-Nitzav Moshe Friedman — with whom Hefetz has a difficult working relationship in the past — also is the subject of a police investigation regarding conduct unbecoming an officer.

Hefetz's suspension will last at least until the end of Eitan's investigation. If there is a decision to press criminal charges, it will last until the end of that litigation.

Eitan, a 30-year veteran in the force, has been authorized by Kubersky to investigate wherever the case takes him and has been told he has access to all documents and people involved. Among the people he will be questioning, *The Post* has learned, is Burg, who authorized Ivztan's decision to suspend Hefetz; Ivztan; Nitzav Yehzekel Carthy, head of the Criminal Investigations Department; Hefetz; Turgeman.

(Continued on Page 15)



Nitzav-Mishne Assaf Hefetz

Despite Hussein attack on Reagan policies

U.S. will promote Jordan arms sale

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — The Reagan administration yesterday said it would continue to promote a controversial anti-aircraft-missile sale to Jordan despite the latest statements by King Hussein attacking U.S. policy in the region.

The State Department described Hussein's remarks in *The New York Times* as "a setback" and "disappointing." But spokesman John Hughes said there had been "no change" in U.S. policy regarding the proposed \$150 million arms sale or the separate \$220m. programme

to establish a Jordanian rapid-deployment strike force.

"The importance of Jordan is clearcut," Hughes told reporters. "The weapons are needed by Jordan."

In the interview, Hussein ruled out direct negotiations with Israel any time soon. He said the U.S. through one-sided support for Israel, had lost its credibility as a mediator in the Arab-Israeli peace process.

His remarks came just one day after President Ronald Reagan reiterated strong U.S. support for Jordan in an address before the

United Jewish Appeal in Washington. Hussein said he was not persuaded by the speech.

Administration officials and several members of congress agreed yesterday that Hussein's remarks were bound to further weaken support for Jordan on Capitol Hill. They said the king's strong denunciation of the U.S. gave an important boost to pro-Israel legislators campaigning to block the sale of 1,600 Stinger anti-aircraft missiles to Jordan and another 1,200 to Saudi Arabia.

Until yesterday, most observers (Continued on Page 2, Col. 6)

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AMSTERDAM	1	34	8	Clear
BRUSSELS	3	27	8	Clear
BUENOS AIRES	10	18	27	Cloudy
CHICAGO	-2	38	4	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	0	32	5	Clear
FRANKFURT	-1	30	4	Clear
GENEVA	-3	29	4	Clear
Helsinki	-10	14	2	Clear
HONG KONG	22	28	27	Cloudy
JOHANNESBURG	5	11	12	Rain
LONDON	0	31	4	Cloudy
MADRID	2	38	7	Cloudy
MONTREAL	-9	18	4	Cloudy
NEW YORK	1	34	8	Clear
OSLO	-4	29	4	Clear
PARIS	-2	36	14	Clear
RIO DE JANEIRO	18	26	28	Cloudy
SAO PAULO	18	26	28	Cloudy
STOCKHOLM	-11	12	2	Cloudy
TOKYO	22	28	27	Cloudy
TORONTO	-7	18	3	Clear
VIENNA	0	32	7	Clear
ZURICH	-5	23	9	Clear

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy.
Outlook for Shabbat: Partly cloudy.

Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
Humidity	Min-Max	Max
Jerusalem	78	3-12
Golan	77	2-10
Nahariya	90	2-8
Safed	90	2-8
Haifa Port	59	10-16
Tiberias	57	8-18
Nazareth	47	3-13
Afula	55	8-17
Shomron	59	4-12
Tel Aviv	47	10-16
B-G Airport	62	9-15
Jericho	60	10-18
Gaza	61	11-17
Beer-Sheva	50	7-14
Eilat	32	10-20

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

The general manager of Mekorot, Ze'ev Ashkenazi, will speak at the Haifa Engineers Club at 1 p.m. today. Table reservations by phone, 634583.

ARRIVALS

Yeshayahu Anug, after completing his tour of duty as ambassador in Canada, Anug is to take over the European Division of the Foreign Ministry.

Delegates here for Pilgrimage '84 convention

By AARON SITTNER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

A rare inter-denominational Christian worship service will be held at the Mount of Beatitudes Sunday morning — for Roman Catholics, Protestants and Orthodox Christians.

The mass will be celebrated for 160 priests, ministers and church newspaper correspondents who arrived in Israel this week from 23 countries for the Pilgrimage '84 convention. The week-long event, sponsored by the Ministry of Tourism, is being held at Jerusalem's Larmone Hotel.

Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir, who welcomed the delegates this week, noted that 315,000 Christian pilgrims visited Israel last year, "or about one out of every three tourists who arrived in 1983." While most of them came from Europe, there were also large numbers from Uganda, Japan, Korea and Nigeria, he said.

The ministry has organized teams of Israeli tour organizers to accompany the convention delegates as they make the rounds of sacred Christian sites in Jerusalem, Bethlehem and Galilee.

According to ministry sources, the pilgrim traffic has become one of the most important sources of tourism to Israel in recent years.

SCIENCE. — The Haifa Municipality and Haifa Rotary Club are to invest \$90,000 in establishing a science and technology center for youngsters in the Ramot Remez community center.

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SYMPOSIUM

Guidelines for Policy Making in Jewish Education

HOME NEWS

On Eilat's 35th birthday — Shamir for 'creating facts'

EILAT (Itim). — Visiting this southern port town yesterday on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the area's capture by the Israel Defence Forces in the War of Liberation, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir called for the "creation of facts" to guarantee Israel's strength.

Speaking as the hand-made Israeli flag first hoisted at the Umm Rashrash police station 35 years ago flapped in the breeze, Shamir recalled that Israel's right to Eilat had not always been internationally recognized.

But the fact of Eilat, said the prime minister, had been created, and no one doubted Israel's right to the area any more. Shamir saw this as an example for the future.

He stressed that settlements must be built "throughout Eretz Yisrael (the Land of Israel)." He did not specifically refer to Judea and Samaria; but earlier on a tour of the Arava, he was met by

demonstrators who complained that their region was being neglected because of the funds allocated to those areas.

Shamir said that it was the government's aim to fill the entire land, including the Arava, with Jews, "no matter who else lives here."

Arava regional council chairman Ilan Orr and Eilat regional council chairman Dov Helman both called for the channelling of more resources to the south. Helman noted that only 1 per cent of Israel's live in the Arava, and Orr called for the establishment of a ministerial committee to deal with the problem.

The prime minister asserted that there was no discrimination against any particular region. But he pointed to the economic situation, which he said necessitated a cut in government spending, including for development.

12-year-old girl flying to U.S. for liver transplant

By D'VORA BEN SHAUL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Limor Eisner, 12-year-old daughter of a Dan cooperative bus driver in Givatayim, flew to the U.S. yesterday for a liver-transplant operation, which doctors say is the only chance for saving her life.

Limor suffers from a rare liver disease. Only three such cases have ever been diagnosed and one of them was her brother, who died of the disease five years ago.

El Al has prepared a special section in the plane to accommodate the intensive-care unit Limor needs for the trip.

Yoel Eisner, the child's father, said that he had been unable to get any financial help from the Health Ministry. Limor's operation will cost \$115,000.

Kupat Holim Clalit, of which the Eisners are members, has agreed to pay 50 per cent of the cost of flying Limor, her father and the doctor who must accompany her, and an additional \$160 per day for the time she is in hospital.

In addition, members of Dan and schoolmates of Limor at the Gordon school in Givatayim have mounted a campaign to raise money for the "Limor Fund," which is running under the auspices of Yitzhak Yaron, mayor of Givatayim.

A leading Jerusalem immunologist said that liver transplants are more successful than the transplant of other organs. He added that Professor Thomas Streizel of the Albert Einstein Hospital in New York, who will perform the operation, is a pioneer in liver transplants.

'Optimism' in Danny Katz case after arrest of new suspect

ACRE (Itim). — With the arrest of a youth from the Central Galilee village of Sakhnin, the team investigating the murder of 15-year-old Danny Katz of Haifa has expressed optimism about solving the case.

Katz's body was found not far from Sakhnin, just south of Carmel, last December.

The Sakhnin youth was remanded into custody yesterday for 15 days at the local magistrate's court, which banned publication of his name.

Several dozen local residents have been arrested and questioned

since the murder, but were released for lack of evidence.

According to the Haifa-based *Al-Itim*, the Communist Arabic weekly, eight suspects, all from Sakhnin, have been arrested. Last Saturday a young mother was detained and her husband, who had been arrested previously, was re-arrested.

The paper said that local dignitaries had complained to the police that the arrests were a "provocation" against the village and they called for the release of the detainees.

Autopsy shows man found in car was murdered

A resident of the Deheisha refugee camp near Bethlehem, whose body was found Wednesday in a car parked off the road near the Hadassah Medical Centre in Ein Kerem, was murdered, an autopsy

showed yesterday.

Aisha Mohammed Ahmed, 45, was killed by blows to the head by a blunt instrument, the Institute of Forensic Medicine at Abu Kabir found. (Itim)

Court raps social ministry

TEL AVIV (Itim). — The Tel Aviv juvenile court yesterday criticized the Labour and Social Affairs Ministry for not allocating enough funds and qualified manpower to deal with problem children.

Judge Eli Sharon delivered the criticism when dealing with the case of a 13-year-old charged with setting fire to a car and breaking and entering.

Sharon said the boy was a typical case who should have been dealt with earlier by ministry social workers and youth workers. The youngster has not attended school since age 11.

Sharon said that "luckily" the boy had not reached the age of criminal responsibility and could be ordered into the custody of the ministry workers, who could place him in some form of compulsory institution.

"The mistaken idea is prevalent among the public that a delinquent under age 13 (the age of criminal responsibility) cannot be dealt with," said Sharon.

Sharon said that if the ministry treated potentially delinquent youngsters at an early age, they would not have to be dealt with, and at greater expense, after they reached 13.

Orthodox protest in Tel Aviv over Tiberias hotel

TEL AVIV (Itim). — A protest vigil was held yesterday outside the main office of Bank Leumi in Tel Aviv's Rehov Herzl yesterday by the Atra Kadisha organization, to protest against the building of a hotel over an alleged ancient Jewish cemetery in Tiberias.

The organization, which aims to preserve ancient Jewish burial sites, noted that Bank Leumi partly owns

the Africa-Israel company which is building the hotel.

One banner carried by the protesters read: "Are Jewish dead less holy than the Christian Tereza Anghelovici?" This is a reference to the protests over the removal of Anghelovici from her Rishon LeZion grave allegedly by Orthodox zealots.

Saline-water use meeting opens Monday at BGU

Jerusalem Post Reporter

BEERSHEBA. — A five-day international conference on the use of saline water for agriculture and aquaculture will open at Ben-

Gurion University of the Negev on Monday.

Up to 200 participants from Israel and eight other countries are expected at the conference, which will include lectures, round-table discussions and field trips, said Dr. Dov Pasternack of BGU's Institute for Applied Research.

Pasternack told *The Jerusalem Post* that most of the world's deserts border on seas, and research could help solve many of the problems of feeding animals (and, indirectly, people) in those areas.

Pasternack said Israeli research discovered that wheat and fodder crops grow just as well in brackish as in so-called sweet water, and that cotton crops can produce greater yields in saline water. This finding enabled the settlement of the central Negev and will no doubt also affect the settling of the Arava.



Tat-Aluf Benny Dekel, Israel Defence Forces adjutant-general, yesterday unveils the insignia of Segen-Mishne Zehavit Levi at the graduation ceremony of the officers' training course of which she was the "outstanding cadet." (IPPA)

Phalange leader presses for cantonization plan

BEIRUT (Reuters). — The commander of the Lebanese Forces Christian militia, Fady Frem, repeated his demand for Lebanon to be divided into cantons on religious lines and his determination to resist what he sees as the threat of Syrian domination.

Frem told the newspaper of the Christian Phalangist Party, *al-Ahram*, "Cantons, a federal system or decentralization — the names are not important. What is important is the creation of a specific entity for the Christian community."

The two right-wing Christian leaders at the Lausanne conference, Phalangist Party chief Pierre Jemayel and former president Camille Chamoun, are reported to be proposing a form of cantonization.

But Syria and Moslem leaders have opposed the scheme. They want to keep the present system of centralized government, but make reforms to give Moslems an equal say with Christians.

Frem, whose militia was not invited to Lausanne, appears to want to go farther and faster than the veteran politicians representing Christian interests in Lausanne. Jemayel is 78 and Chamoun 83.

The Lebanese Forces have already taken steps to create what is effectively a Christian canton in East Beirut and the area to the north. They have taken control of security in the area from the Lebanese Army and are working on schemes to administer public services.

Frem also organized a meeting this week of Christian groups to form a "national Christian council" to press for cantonization and resist Syrian influence.

Soldier arrested in shooting of father

Special to the Jerusalem Post
NAZARETH. — A 21-year-old soldier from Makr village in Lower Galilee has been arrested on suspicion of killing his father.

According to the police, a quarrel broke out Wednesday night between the young man and his 46-year-old father over the latter's decision to divorce his wife and marry a young Golan woman.

The discussion became heated

and the son drew an Israel Defence Forces Galil rifle and pulled the trigger, killing him on the spot, the police said. The son then contacted the Tiberias police saying: "I have killed my father. Please come and arrest me."

Senior police officers who arrived on the scene shortly afterwards found the father on the floor covered with blood. The suspect handed the gun to the police officers before being arrested.

Rapist gets nine-year sentence

NAZARETH (Itim). — The district court here yesterday sentenced a 19-year-old villager to nine years in prison after convicting him on two charges of rape.

The three-member bench found Haled K'heil, 19, of Umm al-Ghanem, guilty of raping a 17-year-old hitchhiker by the Kinneret after he offered her a lift in Tiberias.

He then drove back to Tiberias,

collected two of his friends, and all three then raped her again. The two friends are being tried separately in the Nazareth District Court.

K'heil expressed remorse, but the judges decided to hand down a stiff sentence — one of the stiffest handed down in Israel in recent years for rape — both in view of the brutal nature of the crimes and in order to deter other would-be offenders.

Spinal disease drug warning planned

By D'VORA BEN SHAUL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Health Ministry will notify all doctors next week that the Swiss-made anti-inflammatory drug, Tenderil, is to be reserved for use in very specific cases only.

Dr. Ephraim Menzel, head of the Drug Regulation Committee, told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday that "the ministry would like to take the drug off the market, but there is one particular spinal disease, spondylitis (or) Bechterew's disease, that responds best to this drug."

He added that the ministry is aware of the extremely dangerous

nature of this drug and will instruct doctors to use it only for spondylitis and then for not longer than a week.

Tenderil is one of a group of drugs that some researchers in the U.S. and Norway say may have caused the death of more than 1,000 persons in the three years it has been on the market. It has been widely used for arthritis and other joint diseases.

A similar drug, manufactured in Israel under the name Shigroidin, went out of production last month when the company producing it, Ikapharm, decided on its own initiative to remove it from the market.

Ashdod Histadrut man warns Rogosin

ASHDOD (Itim). — The Ashdod Labour Council yesterday asked the general manager of Rogosin Textile plant, Ariel Stern, to revoke the dismissal notices the plant sent to 25 of the plant's employees, including the chairman and secretary of the works committee.

Council secretary Yehuda Ben-Harosh proposed in the letter to Stern to renew the talks between management and workers on the basis of the proposals submitted

before the recent wave of dismissals.

At a news conference in Ashdod, Ben-Harosh announced that the Histadrut will never agree to the dismissal of works-committee members in the course of a labour dispute. He warned that if the dismissals are not revoked, the Histadrut will renew its backing of the strikers, who laid down tools more than three months ago.

Ben-Harosh said that the Histadrut paid out some IS13 million in strike pay to the workers during December and January, but the payments were stopped when the Histadrut withdrew its backing for the strike. If the Histadrut renews its support for the strikers, said Ben-Harosh, the strikers will receive the February payment.

Banks criticize Treasury policy

Post Economic Reporter

Criticism of the Finance Ministry's credit-restraint policy was voiced yesterday at a meeting of the Bank of Israel's advisory committee with Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orgad.

Commercial-bank representatives expressed the fear that the policy would drive capital out of the banking system into the "grey market." They said that exports and other productive sectors might be strangled by the policy.

Cohen-Orgad who explained his policy at some length, said that a restrictive policy was essential if the printing of money was to be held down. His main aim was to reduce the balance-of-payments deficit, and he intended to continue his current policy.

LOOKING FOR WITNESSES

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El Al flies in workers to break strike in N.Y.

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — El Al's American workers are due to strike this morning, but the national air carrier hopes to keep its U.S. flights on schedule — with the help of 22 Israeli workers flown to the U.S., about 100 non-union American employees, and a Jewish security agency.

The strike, over El Al's plans to cut back staff in its New York operation, was due to begin at midnight U.S. time (7 a.m. in Israel). At press time, intensive talks were still under way, in a last-minute attempt to avert disruptions in El Al flights. But senior El Al officials here were not optimistic that a work stoppage could be avoided.

About half of El Al's traffic is on the New York-Tel Aviv route. In an attempt to keep its planes flying, El Al has dispatched six senior officials, headed by deputy director-general Amos Amir, to the U.S., together with 22 workers who hold U.S. citizenship. Management said that it also hoped that about 100 non-union employees in New York will not join the planned walkout.

Speaking to reporters at El Al's Ben-Gurion Airport headquarters, director-general Rafi Harlev said the national carrier also hired the

services of a Jewish security agency to guard its installations at Kennedy Airport and in Manhattan.

El Al was also counting on airport baggage loaders to continue working, as their company, Allied, had promised. The national carrier also secured an undertaking from truck drivers to continue working and more picket lines, Harlev said.

Meanwhile, reports from New York said that 95 per cent of the 22 unionized members — about two-thirds of the El Al workers in New York — had rejected management offers.

The El Al staff committee in Israel has remained neutral as the airline sent 22 of its members to the U.S. The American workers were considered here to be "not under" according to staff committee secretary Reuven Virovnik. The workers in the U.S. did not intervene when the staffers in Israel were fighting management's senior staff committee source.

Even the AFL-CIO, which has very close ties with the Histadrut, did not request the Israeli labor federation's intervention. Avraham Alon, head of the Histadrut's international department, told *The Jerusalem Post*.

WASHINGTON

(Continued from Page One)

thought that those sales would eventually win approval, albeit only after a bitter fight between the administration and congress. Now, the prospects of seeing that sale through have clearly diminished.

"His timing could not have been worse," one administration official said.

State Department officials, trying to understand why the king had decided to speak out against the U.S., privately referred to what they said were Jordanian fears of Syria, especially its success in forcing Lebanon to abrogate the May 17 agreement.

They agreed that Hussein had been upset by the strong congressional opposition to the Stinger sale as well as the other effort in congress to force the transfer of the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. But they also cited Syria's enhanced ability to get its way.

Publicly, spokesman Hughes merely said it was "a fact" that the Soviet Union had pumped massive amounts of weaponry into Syria and that several countries in the region, including Jordan, were concerned.

Hughes flatly rejected Hussein's proposal that negotiations be turned over to the UN Security Council since the superpowers were too one-sided in their attitudes — the U.S. too pro-Israel and the Soviet Union too pro-Syrian. Hughes said the Soviet Union has not demonstrated any responsibility in the search for peace.

U.S. officials were especially upset that Hussein appeared so unappreciative of Reagan's move — during an election year — in defending Jordan before the Jewish audience this week. They said Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz were irritated by Hussein's remarks.

A month ago, Hussein took a different tone during his summit with Reagan in Washington, leading some U.S. officials to suspect that the subsequent U.S. withdrawal from Lebanon may have sent "a chilling" signal to Amman. In the interview, Hussein refused to talk about the pullout of the U.S.

Marines, but officials here have said that America's credibility as a reliable partner was certainly enhanced by the decision.

In responding to Hussein, the State Department issued a long statement reiterating continued strong support for Israel but opposition to the Jerusalem legislation and the creation of settlements, and support for the arms sales to Jordan and for Reagan's September 1, 1983 Middle East peace initiative.

The *New York Times* said Hussein was particularly irritated by Reagan's recent rejection of two Hussein initiatives contained in March 11 letter to the president. One, the report said, would have had the U.S. sponsor or at least support a UN resolution condemning Israeli settlements as illegal. The second would have had Washington press Israel to permit West Bank Arabs to attend the next session of the Palestine National Council, the PLO's so-called parliament-in-exile.

Hughes refused to comment on private "diplomatic exchanges" but he expressed support for "general" for the principle of freedom of movement, and for the interview, Hussein bit.

"The whole situation is hopeful because it appears more clear than ever before that the U.S. forsaken its position as a superpower and as a moral defender of the world," he said. "It has forsaken its position as a nation that stands by its word and its commitments, has chosen to disqualify itself as sole force in the area that can help us all move towards a just and durable peace. The U.S. is not fit to move except within the limits of what AIPAC (the American Israel Public Affairs Committee), Zionists and the State of Israel determine for it."

He added: "We see things in following way: Israel is on our side. It is there by virtue of American military and economic aid. It translates into aid for Israeli settlements... You obviously have your choice and your choice, Israel... That being the case, there is no hope of achieving anything."

Soviet official rejects petition for Shcharansky

WASHINGTON (AP). — A Soviet official yesterday declined to accept a petition asking freedom for dissident Anatoly Shcharansky, but he argued briefly with the group seeking to deliver the signatures.

Marilyn Taffman and Pamela Cohen of Chicago Action for Soviet Jewry sought to deliver a petition with about 3,000 names to the Soviet Embassy in Washington.

Soviet press spokesman Vladimir Mikoyan came out of the embassy to engage in a sidewalk discussion with the women, but steadfastly refused to accept the papers.

Mikoyan expressed surprise when told that many lawyers had

Tami stymies Labour elections bid

By SARAH HONIG
Post Political Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Tami yesterday formally announced that it would not support an Alignment initiative to move for early elections before the Knesset begins its spring recess at the end of this month.

Labour had been counting on Tami's support to advance elections in this summer. Labour sources had been intimating for days that Tami had expressed readiness to cooperate because of its concern over the state of the economy. These reports continued to be circulated, although Tami officially kept silent. The Jerusalem Post reported earlier in the week that Tami would adopt a wait-and-see position till mid-May at least.

Yesterday this became official, when the Tami secretariat decided that it "would deliberate on the issue of early elections in a number of weeks." This does not help Labour, as the opposition would have had to move for legislation calling for early elections by Tuesday in order to

meet the recess deadline. Tami earlier stymied a Labour plan to prolong the present Knesset session by one week, to give the opposition more time to persuade that party to support early elections.

If Tami agrees to early elections after the Knesset recess, the earliest possible polling date would be November 1984, exactly one year before the term of the present Knesset is due to end.

Labour has been energetically courting Tami for weeks. Both Tami and Labour sources had reported daily meetings. Labour was cautiously optimistic and the party's Knesset faction even authorized party chairman Shimon Peres and faction chief Moshe Shahal officially to seek the support of other parties for early elections legislation. A bill to reschedule elections must have the support of at least 61 of the 120 Knesset members. The opposition can muster only 56 if all its members attend and vote. With Tami, Labour could reach the 59 mark, but the

support of Liberal mavericks Dror Zeigerman and Yitzhak Berman was also being counted upon.

Had Tami responded to the Labour overtures, the party would have had to rush its own MKs, Uzi Baram and Menahem Hacoen, back from Argentina, where they are now visiting as part of a Knesset delegation. Zeigerman is also in Argentina.

Labour did not officially comment on its disappointment, but some members insist that the party ought to sponsor an early-elections bill even if Tami support cannot be guaranteed. This is seen as unlikely, however, as such a bill can be presented only once in six months and the opposition is not likely to risk failure.

The Tami secretariat's decision to stay in the coalition for the time being was proposed by Deputy Labour and Social Affairs Minister Ben-Zion Rubin. A motion by Ashkelon Mayor Eli Dayan proposing that a decision on early elections be adopted immediately, was defeated.

Country to forget woes for festival of Purim

Jerusalem Post Staff

The joyous festival of Purim will be celebrated throughout the country tomorrow night, Sunday and Monday with the reading of the Megilla (the Scroll of Esther), feasts, costume parties, the exchange of dishes of food between friends and neighbours, giving gifts to the poor, and general merrymaking.

The Megilla, describing the saving of the Jews from slaughter in ancient Persia, will be read tomorrow night and Sunday in most of the country, and on Sunday night and Monday in those cities — Jerusalem, Tiberias and Safad — that had walls in Joshua's time.

In Jerusalem, the city's chief rabbis, Shalom Mashash and Yitzhak Kolitz, ruled yesterday that the Ramot quarter is considered part of Jerusalem, and thus residents must observe Shushan Purim on Monday. Earlier this week, Israel's former Sephardi chief rabbi, Ovadiah Yosef, after measuring distances between Ramot and other built-up areas, ruled that Ramot was outside the city, and that residents of the quarter should observe Purim tomorrow night and Sunday.

Jerusalem City Hall has again organized a Purim carnival, to take place on the Ben-Yehuda Mall on Monday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., featuring entertainment and booths selling food. The street will be decorated by students of the Bezalel Academy of Art.

In Tel Aviv, Sderot Ben-Gurion will turn into "Surprise Lane" today between Ben-Yehuda Street and Kikar Namir, with 16 classes from various

schools performing theatrical scenes.

An *adloyada* parade with giant dolls, music and children dressed in costumes will be held Sunday in Ramat Aviv, culminating in contests and artistic performances. Festivities are also being organized in the city's southern neighbourhoods by the municipality.

Na'amat Tel Aviv will hold its annual Purim bazaar which will open at ZO A House tomorrow at 7 p.m. The bazaar will also be open Sunday and Monday from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Three runners from Rumania are due to arrive today to take part in the Purim Marathon in Tel Aviv on Monday. They will be joining runners from France, Hungary, Italy, the U.S., Colombia and Switzerland in the annual event.

In the North, 1,000 students who recently came on aliyah will participate with Druse from the Golan Heights and South Lebanon on Sunday in a peace march in Kiryat Shmona.

In Haifa, municipal inspectors confiscated 3,000 dangerous toys from shops and kiosks yesterday, in a joint drive with the police to make Purim safe for children. The seized items included explosive caps, rockets and fireworks.

No precipitation is forecast for today and tomorrow, but Sunday and Monday are likely to be rainy, a Meteorological Institute official told The Jerusalem Post yesterday. If the rains do appear on Purim and Shushan Purim, temperatures will go down by two to four degrees, he said.

Shipyard workers block road

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — The workers of the Israel Shipyards yesterday morning blocked the main road of the industrial area outside the yard for several hours in protest against the dismissal of 180 of the 850-strong labour force. Their action caused major traffic jams.

"They brought out trailers, a tractor and a crane and lined them up across the road and also burned tires to make it impassable."

"A large force of police, headed by Haifa district commander Tat Nitzav Meshulam Amit did not intervene but diverted the traffic to alternate routes."

"The workers also forced the yard general-manager Michael Cohen and company secretary Dan Yalon to leave the firm's compound."

"The men started wildcat industrial action against the dismissals on Tuesday, when they refused to allow the freighter Zim Marseilles to leave the yard's floating dock after repairs were completed."

"On Wednesday, the Labour Court granted a management request for an order to release the ship, but the employees did not carry it out yesterday. The court is to reconvene today on the case."

"The workers are continuing to prevent outside sub-contractors from working in the yard."

"Meanwhile, Zim reportedly diverted another large ship, the Zim Savannah, which was to have been repaired in the yard to Piraeus repair yard for fear that the vessel might also be held up by the Haifa yard's employees."

"The holding of the Zim Marseilles is costing the owners thousands of dollars a day. It is also feared that other repairs, including of U.S. Sixth Fleet ships, maybe withheld unless the workers stop their actions."

"On Tuesday, Haifa Mayor Aryeh Jurel sent a telegram to the Transport Minister Mordechai Zipori asking for his immediate personal intervention to save the government-owned yard from collapse."

"The yard has been partially idle for about a year because it has no orders for ship-building either civilian or military and only its repair section had been employed."



The freighter Zim Marseilles (left) is being prevented from leaving its dock by Israel Shipyard workers (Israel Sun)

Project Renewal to bail out Jlem reading programmes

By D'VORA BEN SHAUL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Jewish Agency's Project Renewal will soon take over the financing of remedial-reading programmes in 10 Jerusalem schools, Education and Culture Minister Zevulun Hammer announced yesterday.

The move came to help preserve the ministry's emergency remedial-reading programme, which has been endangered by budget cuts. There are 14 schools with remedial-reading programmes paid for by the ministry.

Hammer also sent individual letters this week to 7,000 retired schoolteachers asking them to volunteer for a few hours of teaching every week. Next week he plans to ask 120,000 retired civil servants to volunteer for a variety of jobs in the schools, including tutoring and library duty.

Next week the ministry will test 95,000 third-graders to see if the past year's accelerated programme has borne fruit. Among the pupils tested will be 15,000 Arab and

Druse pupils who will be tested in Arabic. The pupils will also be tested in arithmetic.

A ministry spokesman said yesterday that the Israel Defence Forces has been requested to supply names and other data on enlistees who fail the reading exams. The ministry thus hopes to isolate common factors of poor reading ability in children who have attended school regularly.

The ministry started the emergency programme, now threatened by monetary problems, in response to a report issued in February 1982 by Dr. Yosef Bashi of the Hebrew University's School of Education, which showed that as many as 20 per cent of the country's third-grade pupils were deficient in reading skills.

Former official calls U.S. policy 'clumsy'

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Israel and the U.S. have managed to cooperate in such a "clumsy way" that they have delivered Lebanon to the Syrians, Professor Harland Cleveland, former U.S. assistant secretary of state, told reporters at Haifa University yesterday.

"That strikes me as the rather tragic outcome of public policy in the two countries, no matter how justified the individual moves may have seemed at the time," he said. Cleveland, replying to questions about America's role in Lebanon, said that if the U.S. government had deliberately tried to be clumsy, it could not have been more successful.

He listed several political and military mistakes which had led to this. The first error was to send in American troops, never done in any previous peace-keeping operation. The second mistake was in calling it a multi-national force, since it consisted of four separate forces with no theatre commander and nobody in overall charge. Finally, it was wrong to have so many troops concentrated in one place (the marines

El Al and Arkia on verge of aircraft-lease agreement

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — El Al and Arkia are in the "advanced stages" of an agreement whereby the national carrier would lease one of its old Boeing 707s to carry the latter's charter passengers.

Speaking to reporters at his Ben-Gurion Airport headquarters, El Al's director general, Rafael Barlev, said the envisaged deal provides that one of the Boeing 707s will be leased, with pilots, to Arkia. The plane will be painted in the latter's colours and the pilots will wear its uniforms. Cabin crews will be Arkia's.

The deal is expected to go into effect on April 1 for one year, Barlev reported.

With the purchase of modern

Boeing 767s and 737s, El Al found itself with an over-capacity, but there is a small demand in the market for the old fuel-guzzling planes.

The arrangement — if it goes through — will thus solve the problem of a third of El Al's early 707s. Two others are to go to Air Zaire.

Arkia's director general, Yosef Rosen, confirmed the details of the envisaged deal. He said, however, that his company hopes to link it to a wide-ranging agreement on cooperation, such as flying El Al passengers to Egypt, Cyprus and Turkey. Arkia could use its 50-seater Dash-7 planes when it does not pay to send El Al's 113-seat Boeing 737, the national carrier's smallest aircraft.

headquarters which was bombed) and then not defend the perimeter of such a "juicy terrorist target."

"If you add all these military and political mistakes together, it is hard to improve on that as a case history of a horrible example."

Cleveland was assistant secretary of state during the administration of John Kennedy. One of his main tasks at the time was to formulate American policy in the UN — particularly with respect to the UN's peacekeeping roles in various countries. "One of the sacred principles of our policy was never to put either American or Russian troops on the ground in a peace-keeping role," he said.

Cleveland was the U.S. ambassador to Nato under president Lyndon Johnson. Since 1980, he has been director of the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs and professor of public affairs

at the University of Minnesota. He was a guest speaker yesterday at an international seminar on "State, Nation and Religion" sponsored by the Reuben Hecht Chair in Zionism at Haifa University.

Asked about America's future role in Lebanon following that country's abrogation of the treaty with Israel and the withdrawal from Beirut of the U.S. Marines, Cleveland said: "I am not even sure if there is a place for America to act as a mediator."

"It seems to me that the problem is for the people whose lands and interests are most at stake to be talking to each other. It is our (America's) task to back up the results of any agreement that can be reached with financial and security guarantees and so on. It can't be our (America's) task to invent the outcome. It has to be a Middle East outcome," he said.

Court orders TA to permit cemetery

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The High Court of Justice yesterday ordered the Tel Aviv municipality and the Ramat Hasharon local council to permit a cemetery to be established in the Ramat Aviv Gimmel district. The court ordered the two local authorities to issue a permit for a cemetery circumference wall and to prepare the ground for the cemetery.

The court said in its decision that the Tel Aviv and Ramat Hasharon authorities should take into account not only what is good for Ramat Aviv Gimmel residents but also the general needs of the city, whose residents have a right, when they die, to a proper burial place.

The court ordered Tel Aviv and Ramat Hasharon to pay the burial society IS700,000 in costs. (Ium).

Naturalists count Ein Gedi hyraxes

Jerusalem Post Reporter

BEERSHEBA. — Three hundred-and-two hyraxes (hare-like animals; the Biblical *Shafan hasella*) were counted last month in the Ein Gedi area, nearly 100 more than two years ago, Shalev Men, the biologist of the Nature Reserves Authority, said yesterday.

Unlike the gazelle and the ibex, the hyrax is difficult to count with certainty because of its greater mobility and small size, which facilitates hiding. When the first count was taken in January 1982, 217 were discovered. By December, the number was only 102.



A rock hyrax. (Anni Rubinger)

Pump fire to cause cotton losses

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Because of last month's fire in Mekorot's pumping station on the Kinneret, farmers will have to reduce by about 30 per cent the amount of cotton they will plant in the coming weeks.

Two of the station's three pumps were badly damaged. One will be in working order in about a month and the other only towards the summer.

This will cause a 10 per cent reduction in the country's water supplies during the peak summer months — June, July and August.

Zeev Ashekenazi, general manager of Mekorot, said that the cut in the cotton crop was particularly bad because cotton is one of agriculture's few profitable branches.

KHADDAM

(Continued from Page One)

the conference three or four days, and then if there is no progress, he will take Jumblatt and Berri into a closet and say: 'President Assad called and you will do this and this and this.'

Conference sources were quoted as saying that Khaddam had made it clear to all parties that he would not allow the conference to end without an agreement, and was acting as a "catalyst."

The one positive achievement of the conference yesterday was the agreement by all sides to order a release of all prisoners held by the belligerent parties.

The conference will not be in session today, the seventh anniversary of the assassination of Jumblatt's father, Kemal. It is due to resume discussions tomorrow morning.

The plenary argument was touched off when Khaddam, who is in effect orchestrating the conference though he is attending as an official "observer," asked the Christian leaders to clarify their position on anti-Syrian pro-Israeli statements being put out in Beirut by the "Lebanese Forces" Christian militia.

Pierre Jemayel, leader of the Phalange Party, and former presi-

dent Camille Chamoun attributed the statements to the sense of "insecurity" among many Lebanese Christians.

The strongly pro-Syrian former president Suleiman Franjieh, one of the leading opponents of the Jemayel regime along with Berri, Druse leader Walid Jumblatt and former prime minister Rashid Karamé, found the argument unacceptable.

The Maronite Franjieh demanded that the Christian leaders determine whether Israel is "an enemy, a friend or a fraternal nation" — and brought the session to a close by storming out of the conference hall.

President Jemayel's political adviser, Michel Samaha, later dismissed the incident as "trivial," describing it as a "road accident" that had to be expected in such negotiations.

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15 Iranian 'chemical war' victims arrive in Germany for care Iraq: Factory not for poison gas

BAGHDAD. — Iraq yesterday responded to news reports of an Iraqi factory making poison gas by saying its Akashat industrial complex makes fertilizers.

Minister of Industry and Minerals Subhi Yassin told the government's Iraqi news agency that the complex "only produces fertilizers."

Western news reports had said an Iraqi factory in the town of Rutbah, near the Syrian border, produces poison gas allegedly used by the Iraqis against attacking Iranian forces in the southern and southern-central sectors of the 1,180-kilometre eastern border.

According to the agency, Yassin said such "an Iranian-Zionist propaganda coordination aims at serving as a justification for an attack on the complex to be carried out either by the Iraqis in collaboration with the Syrian regime or by the Zionist entity (Israel)."

Iraq and Syria are ruled by rival factions of the Baath Party. Syria has sided with Iran in the 3½-year-old Gulf war.

Israel, in June 1981, raided the Iraqi nuclear reactor near Baghdad while the Iraqis were engaged in the war with Iran.

Yesterday, a team of UN-appointed chemical-warfare experts in Iran visited soldiers said to be victims of the chemical attacks.

The experts were given fragments of chemical bombs to be taken abroad for testing, the Iranian national news agency Irna said.

Meanwhile, 15 Iranians said to be suffering from the effects of poison gas arrived for treatment in the German Federal Republic yesterday but were said to have virtually no chance of surviving.

About 30 other Iranians have received treatment in western Europe and Japan. At least six have died.

In the fighting, Iraq said its forces had killed more than 500 Iranian troops in three separate engagements east of Basra on the southern Gulf War front yesterday. Official Iraqi sources said earlier

that Iraqi forces were maintaining a steady barrage of artillery fire and air strikes against Iranian positions on Majnoon Island in southeast Iraq after gaining a bridgehead there.

In Washington, Ismat Kittani, Iraq's undersecretary for foreign affairs, appealed to the U.S. to help end the war, saying Iran's Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini "must be stopped" before he spreads havoc throughout the Gulf.

It was learned, meanwhile, that the State Department has until recently a U.S. Middle East peace mediator, at the head of its continuing effort to discourage arms sales by other nations and private dealers to Iran.

A U.S. official who demanded anonymity said, "We wish that dealers wouldn't sell to either party, but since Iran seems to be gaining ground, we're concentrating on its suppliers."

Israel has been Iran's arms suppliers in the past, although it denies it is continuing to sell weapons. (AP, Reuters)

Kohl cautiously welcomes better ties with E. Germany

BONN (Reuters). — German Federal Republic Chancellor Helmut Kohl yesterday cautiously welcomed improved relations with the Communist German Democratic Republic, but said they were still "far removed from normality."

In an annual "state of the nation



Helmut Kohl (Hanan)

in divided Germany" address to Parliament, Kohl stressed the goal of eventual German reunification, but added: "I warn anyone against the illusion that he can play off our freedom and security against our desire for unity."

He said those who seriously desired peace in Europe "must dismantle walls and barbed wire, stop teaching hate and enmity, and not threaten demands for human rights with force."

In a reference to the walled, mined frontier set up by East Germany, Kohl said: "Nowhere is the cruel character of the division of Europe more graphic than at this boundary through the middle of Germany."

But he also welcomed what he called "a generally positive development" of relations between the two countries during the past year. In recent weeks, East Germany has been allowing unprecedented numbers of its citizens to leave for West Germany.

East Germany has taken down automatic scatter guns along its border with the West.

15 Colombian guerrillas die in battle over cocaine factory

BOGOTA (Reuters). — Colombian troops killed at least 15 left-wing guerrillas in a major battle north of here Wednesday after police destroyed a guerrilla drug-processing plant and seized \$150 million worth of cocaine, the army said.

The government Wednesday night declared a state of siege in four guerrilla-infested areas, in a crackdown on the M-19 insurgents, who have been active in Colombia since the 1960s.

Army commander Rafael Obdulio Forero said at least 15 guerrillas and a jail guard died Wednesday when the guerrillas seized the jungle town of Florencia and then troops took it back in a battle that raged for more than five hours.

Officials said five townspeople, including two children, were killed and 10 troops were wounded in the fighting.

The guerrillas attacked Florencia after a police raid on their sophisticated cocaine factory near the town last weekend. Government forces used helicopter gunships to recapture the town, 550 kilometres north of Bogota.

Police said they arrested 20 persons, some of them Americans, in the raid on the cocaine plant. They also seized four aircraft and 17.5 tons of cocaine and cocaine paste, and destroyed the processing equipment and laboratories.

Colombia is a major source of illicit cocaine and the U.S. has pressed the Bogota government to crack down on the traffic.

Robot mixes cocktails, but won't serve drinks

SAN FRANCISCO (Reuters). — A robot "barmaid," which takes orders, mixes cocktails but refuses to serve drinks, was demonstrated here on Wednesday.

The computerized device, which has an arm and four "hands," can be instructed to mix hundreds of different drinks and pour them into appropriate glasses, with or without ice.

This latest produce of California's high-technology is activated by the sound of a voice it has been

programmed to recognize, but it ignores vocal chords distorted by the effects of alcohol, says inventor Ron Meyer.

Waiters equipped with a small headset can give orders from a distance of 30 metres and the robot's synthesized voice announces when the drinks are ready.

Meyer says the machine, which sells for \$65,000, has limitations — it cannot put olives into martinis or listen to customers' problems.

UK miner dies while picketing

LONDON (Reuters). — A striking miner collapsed and died during violent scenes at a British coal mine, as militant trade unionists stepped up pressure to extend a strike to pits still operating, police said yesterday.

Three quarters of Britain's 174 pits were idle in the strike, which is aimed against the National Coal Board's plan to cut back the loss-making industry. Thirty more pits closed on Wednesday, said the National Union of Mineworkers, which is also seeking a pay increase.

A police spokesman said the death of David Gareth Jones, 24, late Wednesday night was not due to violence, but miners near Jones said he had been hit on the neck by a brick.

Jones, one of hundreds of militants lobbying in strength outside the Ollerton Colliery in Nottinghamshire, had become involved in running street battles with locals after charges that pickets' cars had been vandalized.

Police said several persons were injured as groups of pickets turned against local citizens, with rival groups throwing bricks and pieces of wood at each other. At least two of the pickets were treated in an ambulance for head wounds.

Security tight after Sinn Fein shooting

BELFAST (Reuters). — Heavily armed soldiers yesterday guarded the hospital bed where Gerry Adams, head of the Irish Republican Army's (IRA) political arm, Sinn Fein, was recovering from an assassination attempt.

Adams, an elected member of the British Parliament who has never taken his seat, was reported to be in satisfactory condition after being shot three times in the neck and shoulder by Protestant gunmen Wednesday.

Three other Sinn Fein officials

with him in his car were wounded, none seriously. Three suspects arrested minutes after the shooting were still being questioned by police yesterday.

Security across the British-ruled province was tight yesterday amid fears of IRA reprisals.

Rioting over the shooting flared overnight, Wednesday, with more than 20 firebombs hurled at police in Londonderry and buses hijacked and cars stoned in Belfast, but calm prevailed yesterday.

Swiss moving towards joining the UN

BERN (AP). — After an eleven-and-a-half-hour debate, the lower house of the Swiss parliament voted yesterday in favour of becoming a member of the UN.

The decision, which passed 112 votes to 78 with one abstention, has to be approved by the Parliament's upper house before there can be a national referendum on the question.

The issue has aroused widespread controversy for many years in Switzerland, with the opponents arguing that membership would infringe on the country's long-standing tradition of armed neutrality. Switzerland's neutrality could be

infringed, opponents say, because the UN charter authorizes the UN in certain situations to send its peacekeeping troops to, and ask its members to take economic sanctions against, countries defying the world body.

There are 157 countries belonging to the UN and Switzerland is not a member.

RIGHTS PROBE. — The UN Human Rights Commission voted yesterday in Geneva to launch an inquiry into the human-rights situation in Afghanistan.

S. Africa, Mozambique to sign pact

JOHANNESBURG (Reuters). — Leaders of South Africa and Mozambique will meet on their joint border today to sign a pact aimed at ending years of hostility between the two ideologically opposed states.

Prime Minister P.W. Botha (South Africa) and President Samora Machel will sign a non-aggression treaty expected to end the two countries and radically alter the political climate in southern Africa.

The terms of the agreement have

not been formally announced but officials say each side will undertake not to allow its territory to be used as a springboard for guerrilla attacks against the other.

The officials say the pact forbids Marxist Mozambique from providing bases for the African National Congress (ANC), the main Black guerrilla group fighting white rule in South Africa, and Pretoria will agree not to support the Mozambican National Resistance Movement (MNR).

Official sources said it was anticipated the agreement would be

followed by top-level talks between the two countries aimed at improving relations.

They are already discussing a joint security force to safeguard electricity supplies from the big Cahora Bassa dam in northern Mozambique.

Mozambique's left-wing government is publicly portraying the pact as a triumph for its policies despite the fact that Pretoria regards the agreement as vindicating its own strategy.

A mass rally will be held in the Mozambican capital tomorrow to hail the leadership of the ruling Frelimo Party for what the government calls "the victory which the accord with South Africa represents."

The signing ceremony today will be broadcast live by Mozambique's state radio and television.

After reaching agreement on the accord in Cape Town two weeks ago, the Mozambican negotiating team was given a heroes' welcome by Machel at a presidential palace reception.

In recent years, the government has had to contend with hundreds of guerrilla attacks launched by the MNR.

Sports

Jaffa hit for official's punch

Post Sports Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The Football Association disciplinary committee has awarded Hakoah Ramat Gan a 2-0 "technical win" over Maccabi Jaffa and fined the Jaffa club \$50,000 following the stoppage of their National League game last Saturday.

Referee Yair Tillingier halted the match in the 80th minute, when Maccabi Jaffa were leading 1-0. An official of the home club invaded the pitch and punched the Hakoah

goalkeeper Shlomo Nordman, 35, in the face, knocking him out. The official, Eli Feldman, who works for the club's youth division, was banned from all football grounds and activity for three years. The F.A. also decided that Maccabi Jaffa will have to play one home fixture at least 50 kilometres away from home.

Feldman lost his club three valuable points in struggle to avoid relegation, and the club was so reluctant to have him returned from detention. It needed an official of Hakoah to get Feldman's release early Sunday. But Jaffa have announced they will appeal.

SOCCER PREVIEW

PAUL KOHN

Post Sports Reporter

TEL AVIV. — State Cup soccer matches take over from the league games this Saturday with the big show at the Bloomfield Stadium between Maccabi, Tel Aviv, and Maccabi Haifa.

Last year these two teams fought out a memorable Cup match in the semi final. The game ended in a 4-4 draw and Maccabi Tel Aviv went on to win the Cup. The Haifa team has improved no end and are currently fancied contenders for league championship honours. Haifa are third and Maccabi Tel Aviv fourth in the league standings. Both have been reinforced in attack this year with Zahi Armeli joining the Haifa

attack and Benny Tabak back among the Tel Aviv strikers after long absence due to injury. A place in the last eight is this year's prize for the winner.

The town of Petah Tikva will have two games the first between Maccabi Petah Tikva and local Division Beter Ramat Gan scheduled for 2 p.m. Thursday. Hapoel Petah Tikva the local Second Division team takes National League front-runners Bnei Yehuda. Beter have failed to win any of the last six league games and their supporters will be hoping for better luck in the cup. The Hapoel Petah Tikva team will provide tough opposition.

In all, four Second Division teams remain in the competition. Hapoel Haifa and Hapoel Holon have the highest hopes of advancing to quarter finals, playing home games against Maccabi Jaffa and Hapoel Lod respectively.

The Tel Aviv derby between Beter and Hapoel will be played at the Herta Stadium. The other games pit Hapoel Be'er Sheva against Maccabi Yarnot and Maccabi Netanya against Shikma.

Marathons here, there, everywhere

By Jack Leon

Post Sports Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Taking a cue from spring, marathons are breaking out all over Israel. Two "mini-marathons" will soon take place through the main thoroughfares of Jerusalem with Maccabi Israel holding a 21-km race next month during the Pessah and Easter holidays, and Hapoel scheduling a 20-

km run for May 30, Jerusalem-Dag. This in addition to next Monday's full Hapoel marathon in Tel Aviv.

Three runners from Hungary, Gyula Peczo, Attila Bauer and Agnes Spika have arrived for the Tel Aviv Marathon. They comprise only the second Hungarian sports contingent to come to Israel since the Six-Day War, having been preceded by that country's Davis Cup team in 1981.

Glickstein bows out but juniors win

Post Sports Staff

Shlomo Glickstein battled hard and took Anders Jarryd, now ranked 18th in the world to a first set tie-breaker before succumbing in straight sets to the talented young Swede in the second round of the Rotterdam Grand Prix tennis event. Jarryd finally won 7-6, 6-2.

In other games, Jimmy Connors, ranked 53, 7-6, and Kevin Curren of South Africa beat American Brian Gottfried 6-2, 7-6. Also featured in the first round are Sweden's Stefan Edberg and Eliot Telieps of the U.S.

In the Metz Grand Prix event, veteran Romanian Nicu Nastase scored a fine first set victory over local hero Thierry Tulasne. He is joined in

the quarter finals by Tim Wilkison, Michael Meeks of Czechoslovakia and Balazs Taroczy of Hungary.

Israel's two talented juniors, Gila Bloom and Menashe Tsur have both advanced to the quarter finals of the Asian junior championships in Singapore. Bloom who is seeded 6th had a comfortable passage, the posing of the Malaysian player Albert Martin 6-1, 6-0, while Tsur had a great win "if putting on the line" 6-1, 6-4, 6-3.

They are joined in the last eight by two players from the Philippines, and one each from Japan, Hong Kong, South Korea and India.

Real master nerves

OSTEND (Reuters). — Real Madrid of Spain survived a thrilling war of nerves to win the European Cupwinners' basketball cup here beating Simac Milan of Italy 82-81 in the final.

Bornen finalists in 1982, Real fought back from 38-34 down at half-time and overcame a final setback from an Olympic side substituted by the ending of all of veteran defender Manolis Andriou from the end. The Spanish rolled heavily on the height and power of their two American stars, Brian Jackson, who was top scorer with 27 points, and Wayne Robinson, with 14 points.

With the National Basketball Association playoffs getting ever closer, the defending champions, the Philadelphia 76ers seem to be getting better. They made it six in a row, on Wednesday night, when Andrew Toney's 12 fourth-quarter points to edge the Milwaukee Bucks 93-91.

In other games the Washington Bullets downed the Boston Celtics 102-99, the New Jersey Nets defeated the Phoenix Suns 106-102, the Denver Nuggets outlasted the Detroit Pistons 125-121, the Kansas City Kings beat the Atlanta Hawks 101-93 and the Dallas Mavericks shaded the San Diego Clippers 105-101.

Plymouth in FA Cup semi-final

DERBY (AP). — Third Division soccer club Plymouth Argyle reached the semi-finals of the English FA Cup for the first time in their history with a 1-0 defeat of debt-ridden Derby County.

Andy Rogers scored the decisive goal for Plymouth in the 15th minute, and the team straight into the net. Derby attacked with rest but never appeared likely to breach an unbreachable Plymouth defence.

Derby's future now looks bleaker than ever. An application by millionaire publisher Robert Maxwell to rescue the team from bankruptcy was adjourned in London's high court for the third time.

Botham sues

LONDON (AP). — England cricket star Ian Botham is to sue the British paper, The Mail on Sunday, over an article last weekend which alleged he took drugs during England's recent tour of New Zealand.

The England all-rounder considered the article "a most serious libel, particularly as an international sportsman," said his attorney Alan Hargreaves.

The newspaper devoted its first three pages to accounts by people who claimed they had seen Botham "smoking marijuana" and having "access to cocaine" during the New Zealand tour which preceded the current tour of Pakistan.

England have fought a grim rearguard battle to avoid another defeat in the current Test in Pakistan.

At the close of the third day's play they had amassed 233-3 in reply to Pakistan's first innings total of 449-8 decd. Getting match points 66.

New Zealand scored a dramatic victory over Sri Lanka despite the fact that a half having been lost by rain. NZ, 201-8 decd. Sri Lanka 215 and 97.

Haifa regatta

The annual regatta honouring the late Ben-Zion, one of the mainstays of the city, will take place tomorrow in Kibbutz Haifa. The race — just under a mile — will be won by the fastest boat, and will be followed by a double sculls, coxed fours, and quadruple sculls and veterans.

Hockey v. British sailors

Israel's National field hockey XI this afternoon engages a team from the crew of H.M.S. Hermes, the British naval vessel currently on duty at Haifa.

The match is at 3 p.m. at the Wingate field near Netanya.

Softball away

TEL AVIV. — Women members of the Israeli Softball League will launch their first full season of competition this weekend, with the start of round-robin spring tournament involving teams from Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Kfar Saba, American International School and Kibbutz Golan near Kiryat Gat.

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NETANYA: Audio-visual courses for beginners and advanced, adults and children.

Details: call (053)34767, 1pm to 3pm. Registration: 9 Sd. Hen (in the yard), March 27 to 29 ONLY, 6pm to 7.30pm.

REHOVOT: Audio-visual courses for beginners and advanced, adults and children.

Details: call (054)73728. Registration: Chativat Habenayim Hadati, Spinoza St., on March 20 ONLY, 4pm to 7pm.

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Sunday, March 18; in Jerusalem, Monday, March 19

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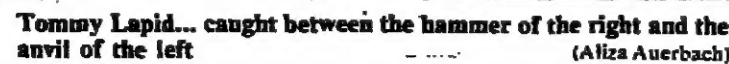
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Yosef Lapid talks about his five years as head of the Broadcasting Authority to Judy Siegel-Itzkovich.

Now, at Hammer's urging, Shamir has agreed that Yinon take over the

"There is some truth to that, but there is a difference," Lapid says bluntly. "It was accepted that the government selects a director-general who is a professional and yet close to its ideological bent. Livni was close to the Alignment and was allowed to finish his term, and then he was replaced by me, a right-wing intellectual. But now, if I am not enough of a patriot for this government, then it is not I who has a



THE OUTGOING director-general feels that he was caught between the hammer of the right and the anvil of the left. "People on the right genuinely identify with the country to the extent where they think that if you disagree with them, you must be a traitor. The problem with the left is the hypocritical do-gooders who have pat answers to all problems and

Lapid says he doesn't know whether his replacement by Porat and the appointment of Yinon were conditional on the approval by Hammer or the establishment of a second (and commercial) TV channel. "But the two things were announced at the same time. It surely was a pack-

Of Admon, who presided over the much-criticized 30th anniversary of independence celebrations in 1978. Lapid says: "He was chairman of the authority's finance committee. It's not a bad idea that a successful businessman be involved in the Broadcasting Authority as deputy chairman. I'm certain he'll observe the law and not create any conflicts of interest between the post and his advertising agency."

He is also proud of the monumental documentary series *Pillar of Fire* and the *Michel, Ezra Safta and Sons* drama TV produced during his term, plus the *Libitrom* and *Cambodian children* telethons. The simultaneous broadcast of a TV show in Israel and Egypt some two years ago was, he believes, a major

The labour problems, the threat of a second TV channel, the budget constraints and the government pressure will soon be transferred to the shoulders of Uri Porat. Only time will tell whether he can handle them.

By MICHAEL EILAN / Jerusalem Post Reporter

the controversy, —

Levy and other members of Tavori's administration at the Petah Tikva City Hall seem absolutely determined not stop the Friday night shows at Heichal. Levy, head

"They see us (seculars) either as potential penitent Jews or as hardly being Jewish at all." He claimed that the religious don't even unders-

religious and secular activists permits to demonstrate on alternate Fridays, so as to avoid clashes. Tonight, it is the turn of the religious, and they promised a big

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Fear of obedience



Bernard Crick, biographer of George Orwell

(Karen Ben-Zion)

By DAVID KRIVINE/Jerusalem Post Reporter

BERNARD CRICK, who has produced a biography of George Orwell, was guest-speaker this week at a Hebrew University symposium devoted to the connection between literature and politics.

Orwell, who died in 1950, was primarily a writer, but he lived in an age so riddled with political problems that he was driven to dealing with the terrible threats facing mankind. His wife Sonia believed that, had he lived in quieter times, he would have turned out a novel a year, devoted peacefully to general fiction.

Crick is sceptical. He prefers facts to theory, commenting: "The fact is that Orwell wrote about politics. What he would have done in a different age nobody knows." Crick is not a *literateur*, being himself professor of politics at Birkbeck College, London University. All his writing, except about Orwell, has dealt with politics.

How did he come to undertake this life-story? "By accident," he says. "Sonia Orwell wanted that a biography be published, and had read a review of mine on a volume of his essays. She said, 'That's the man to write the book, who is he?'"

He grins: "She was not concerned with politics and hadn't noticed a column on that subject that I was writing at the time in the *Observer*." Crick agrees that perhaps, despite her personal indifference to the topic, she wanted a biographer who would bring out Orwell's political message to the world.

"Curiously enough, Orwell had stated in his will that he wanted no biography written. It's a strange demand, suggesting either an excessive modesty or an overweening conceit. It was also completely impracticable."

WHAT WAS the message of *Nineteen Eighty-Four*? There were several. The one that dominates in his book is the dread of totalitarianism. Orwell visualized that by 1984 — that is, at some time in the future (the date 1984 must not be taken seriously, Crick admonishes) — the world would be divided into three countries: Oceania, Eurasia and Eastasia, perpetually at war with each other.

England is part of Oceania. A dictator describing himself as Big Brother dominates the life of every individual in that country. Language is simplified into Newspeak, making rebellious ideas impossible to express. Everybody either conforms or is eradicated.

Crick does not believe that the criticism in *Nineteen Eighty-Four* is directed exclusively at despotic regimes. Orwell himself described the work as a parody. He admitted, to quote his own words, that it warns of "the structure imposed on Socialist and Liberal capitalistic communities alike, by the necessity to prepare for total war with the USSR." But he added: "The danger lies, also, in the acceptance of a totalitarian outlook by intellectuals of all colours."

"The danger," says Crick, "is the submissiveness of the professional and executive classes, who have tenure in their jobs and a pension on retirement. They are inclined to obey their boss, 'the manager,' because they don't want to take risks. Increasingly they conform, they are reluctant to resign from employment on matters of principle."

The manager is more and more in control, thanks to the financial resources and technological devices (for the storage of information and eventually for thought-control) that are at his disposal in the modern world.

SONIA ORWELL saw fiction-writing as Orwell's true vocation; but Crick is not enamoured of Orwell as a novelist. On the other hand he did not write only novels, he also produced articles in newspapers and periodicals, later published in book form. Crick describes those pieces as essays, and sees them as outstanding. "Orwell ranks with Swift, Defoe, Sterne, Hazlitt as one of England's greatest essayists."

Returning nevertheless to *Nineteen Eighty-Four*, which remains in terms of popular appeal his most successful work, I point out that, though written in 1948, the year of Israel's War of Independence, it makes no mention of the Zionist struggle.

Crick: "He was aware of the Jewish problem. In notes that he drew up for the book he lists as one of the subjects: 'Anti-Semitism, and terrible cruelty of war, etc.'"

More revealing is the imaginary figure set up by Oceania's autocratic regime as the object of national hate. The name given to this Public Enemy No. 1 is — Emmanuel Goldstein. Orwell evidently recognized that Hitler chose the Jews for persecution partly because they embodied the love of liberty which the Fuehrer abhorred.

Crick makes the point that Orwell was intellectually honest and did not go with the tide. Though a socialist he criticized the socialists. He was repelled by Ezra Pound's anti-Semitism, but respected his poetry. He attacked Salvador Dali for depicting violence and obscenities like the copulation of women with animals, but he stressed that these were no grounds for censoring Dali's work.

WHAT WOULD he say if he came back and saw how England was run in this fateful year 1984? Crick reflected: "He would be pleased that ordinary people are prosperous. He would be horrified that four million of them or 15 per cent are unemployed and therefore do not share in that prosperity."

"He had a tremendous passion for liberty. People in England today have more liberty than before — but those out of work cannot exercise it."

"I think Orwell would find the situation today amazingly unchanged. We face much the same problems as existed when he was alive," Crick paused. "And they remain unsolved still," he admitted ruefully.

Has his message been absorbed? "The great difference since Orwell's time is that people no longer believe that progress is inevitable. He tried to make that understood. After World War II humanity was sure that the future would be better. Now all are worried that it may be dreadfully worse than the past."



Shoshana Walker at work in ink on parchment.

THE PARCHMENT is from the skin of a kosher animal. The ink is the blackest of natural vegetable dyes. The height of each rounded letter and the width of every column are strictly according to Halacha. Every error has been erased with a razor and redrawn correctly — and even parts of letters, inked in while the scribe's concentration wandered, have been scraped off to be redrawn, as the law instructs.

It has taken the scribe a year and a half to complete this exquisite *Megillat Esther*, scrupulously observing every scribal law along the way. But to many within the Orthodox establishment the *megilla* is not kosher; it's a decorative work only, unfit to be read out to men in the synagogue.

They do not dispute the scribe's art, technical expertise or observance of the law. Their only objection is that the scribe is a woman.

Shoshana Walker, an Orthodox 33-year-old New Yorker, who has lived in Jerusalem for the past six years, is ready and able to defend her *megilla* anywhere.

"I'd no idea what I was getting into," she says. "In the summer of 1982, Professor Aaron Siegman of Baltimore, Maryland, commissioned me to make him a *megilla*. Our first idea was to have a traditional scribe do the lettering, and I would do the illuminations. When that didn't work out, I decided to do the lettering myself."

The storm broke when Walker asked a local scribe to teach her his craft. "He refused point-blank, saying that women are not permitted to be scribes. So I contacted a rabbi."

THE RABBI took several days to check the sources, and came up with rulings drawn from two respected authorities. The first was Maimonides, who states that non-Jews, minors, heretics and women are among those forbidden to prepare Torah, *tefillin* and *mezuzot* texts. When, however, he turns to those prohibited from writing kosher *megillot*, women do not appear on an otherwise identical list. Here, said the rabbi, was implicit permission for Walker.

SCRIBAL TABOO

By WENDY ELLIMAN/Special to The Jerusalem Post

The second source he quoted dealt with the question more directly. The *Aruch HaShulhan*, the authoritative 19th-century commentary on the *Shulhan Aruch*, explained that women may not prepare *tefillin* texts because they are not obliged to put on *tefillin*. But as hearing the *Megillat Esther* at Purim is an obligation that applies equally to everyone, women should be allowed to prepare *megillot*.

Armed with this favourable rabbinic ruling, Walker thought that her troubles were over. "But I was never more wrong," she says. "There were objections everywhere I turned. What Maimonides and the *Aruch HaShulhan* have to say about women and *megillot* is not stated clearly enough to be generally accepted. The 19th-century scholar Rav Akiva Eiger stated categorically that women may not write *megillot*, and the *Mishna Brura* has nothing to say on the subject at all — so it's not clear-cut."

The first three scribes whom Walker approached for help tended toward Rav Eiger's opinion and turned her down. A fourth offered her several months of high-priced instruction in his art.

"I'm a graduate of Parson School of Design in New York. I've designed and written The Jerusalem Post illuminated Haggada, and over 200 *kubot*," says Walker, "and I certainly didn't need to learn the basics of calligraphy! What I wanted to know were the scribal laws."

The fifth scribe she turned to was young and American-born, and he

was delighted at her request. He told her that *megillot* written by women can be kosher, and didn't know why women hadn't written *megillot* she said. "He spent three hours with me, explaining about the tools and the law, how to correct errors, how you work from left to right, the prayer you say beforehand, and what books to consult to learn more."

GREATLY ENCOURAGED, Walker went to a Mea She'arim bookstore to buy Rav Asher Kraus's two-volume *Laws for Scribes*.

"The bookseller started questioning me about why I wanted Rav Kraus's books. Fortunately, I saw a copy of the *Aruch HaShulhan* for sale on his shelves. I pulled it down, flipped to the references — and only then would he tell me the *Laws for Scribes*."

The next stop for parchment. "I went to a shop, also in Mea She'arim," she recounts. "They know me well there, because I've been buying parchment for *kubot* from them for years. But when they heard I was looking for a *megilla*

parchment, they were very dubious. Again, I heard that a woman is not allowed to write a *megilla*. The shop was full of customers — all men — everyone joined in. The owner finally consulted a book of commentaries. At last, he agreed that I was right, and even offered to make me a quill."

It had taken Shoshana Walker the whole summer to acquire the knowledge and the tools. She finally dove to write in September of 1983. "It was quite different from calligraphy I'd done before," she says. "For one thing, the natural scribble in my pen, I saw, was not kosher. In consultation with Rav Asher Kraus and former chief rabbi Ovadia Yosef, by washing my pen out every four lines, and going over every letter twice. Then there's the blessing that the scribe says before sitting down to write. And there's the ruling about *hefsek da'at* — break in intention. Your mind has to be totally on each letter from the moment you begin drawing it until the moment you complete it."

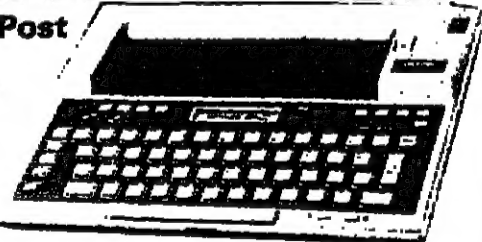
The lettering, Walker found, was exhausting, and it took her several months to complete. Then she began the illuminations — gold comes over each column of letters filled with geometrical designs, and swirling, asymmetrical motifs of brightly coloured leaves and flowers along the borders.

"The completed *megilla* will be displayed in Jerusalem before it goes off to Professor Siegman in Baltimore. Parting with it will be difficult," Walker says.

"There's too much of me in it," she explains. "It'll be hard never to see it again."

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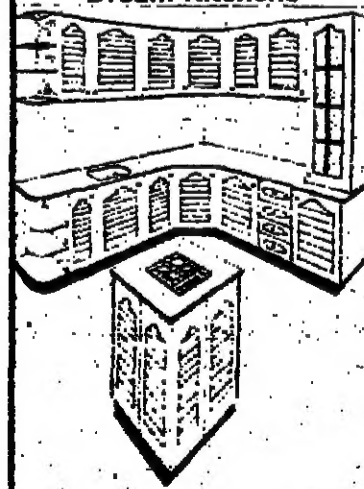
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Negotiating a minefield

U.S. Ambassador to the UN Jeane Kirkpatrick talks to Post Political Correspondent Mark Segal about Washington's Middle East policies and recent developments in Beirut, where "a military solution was imposed by Syria, and it was imposed by force."



Jeane Kirkpatrick

UNITED STATES Ambassador to the United Nations Jeane Kirkpatrick agrees that President Assad of Syria emerged the victor from the war in Lebanon. In a rare interview granted to *The Jerusalem Post*, she indicated Washington's disappointment with the failure of Saudi Arabia and other countries to ensure Syria's withdrawal along with Israel's. The end of Lebanon's agreement with Israel demonstrated the reluctance of a number of Israel's neighbors to live in peace with the Jewish state. She stressed that neither President Reagan nor she herself had any knowledge of the reported contacts with the PLO, emphasizing that U.S. policy had not changed in this respect.

To meet Jeane Kirkpatrick at close quarters is to appreciate why her intellect and her charm have created such a formidable reputation for the scholar turned diplomat. The furnishings of her office in the U.S. delegation building opposite the UN reflect the innate taste that is apparent in her dress.

Her country's 16th permanent representative to the UN, she is America's first woman envoy to the world body, but few of her male predecessors have been so much part of the top policy-making forum of the administration. Not only is she a member of President Reagan's cabinet; she also belongs to his National Security Council executive committee. The close relationship that has developed between her and Secretary of State George Shultz is said to be a great contrast with the traditional tension obtaining between the permanent foreign service and the UN mission.

Very early in the interview, which had been arranged by the mission's press and public affairs counselor, Nigel Blocker, Ambassador Kirkpatrick put me gently but firmly in my place when I referred to the reported deep division in the administration on U.S. Middle East policy, for instance between the Departments of State and Defense. "I do not comment on intra-administration affairs," she said, "only wish that all members of the administration followed the same policy."

WE HAD STARTED with the question of whether the U.S. had a comprehensive Middle East policy. "I hope not," said the ambassador. "I don't think that there is a single problem in the Middle East; there are multiple problems. For this reason, what is required is multiple responses, differentiated responses. If you mean by your question, do we have policies with regard to the outstanding issues in the Middle East, the answer is: yes, of course. If you mean, do we have a comprehensive, overall strategy for the area, my response is: I hope not. A lot of the mistakes in thinking about the Middle East derive from the view that there is one problem and therefore there can be one settlement."

"Multiple problems require multiple responses. Syria, Lebanon, Israel, raise one of set questions. The independence of Lebanon; the security of Israel's borders; the aggressive policy of the Syrians; the Soviet role vis-a-vis the Syrians;

Assad's appetites; his hostility towards Jordan; his role as a destabilizing, radical Arab leader - all these elements raise another set of questions.

"And there are other elements. There is the Israeli-Jordan relationship. There are the problems of Jordan itself, of Israel, Jordan and the West Bank; and of Syria and Jordan. There are, of course, as well, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Jordan, Iraq and Iran. Different problems exist with regard to the relationships among these countries and among different groups of those countries and Israel."

"It is terribly important for the United States to have policies appropriate to each of these problems and sets of problems. You know, I've become very sensitive here at the UN to the tendency on the part of some of the Arabs to argue that there is only one problem in the Middle East - the problems of Israeli-Arab relations - and that if it were not for that problem, the Middle East would be harmonious and peaceful. That line is often taken when Arab countries, the Soviet Union or others desire to focus hostile attention on Israel. What it really means to say is that Israel is the problem and that without the problem of Israel there would be no problems in the Middle East. That is obviously a wholly mistaken, tendentious view." Then she added, "I mean here to analyze problem; not to describe U.S. policies."

THE AMBASSADOR reacted vigorously to my use of the word "abandoned" in connection with the withdrawal of the Marines from Beirut.

"You have to specify who went in and for what purposes before you decide whether we abandoned anybody. It is very important to remember that the operation was, first of all, international in character, and that second, it was a peace-keeping operation."

"This was not a United States commitment to defend the government of Lebanon against military attack from within or without; it was a joint effort at peace-keeping undertaken in the expectation that, by this sort of interposition of forces, there would be a reinforcement of the relatively shaky peace among various groups in Lebanon. The idea was that it would be temporary in character and would help to reinforce the government of Lebanon, while it consolidated its authority during the period of the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon."

"Let us be clear about that, because the commitment of the Multinational Force was very different, for example, than the decision in 1958 by the United States government to go in and protect the government of Lebanon. From the very beginning the MNF was not that kind of operation; that arrangement assumed that the Syrians would be willing to withdraw."

"The negotiations of Secretary Shultz with the Israeli government, and our good offices lent to the negotiations between Israel and Lebanon, were also offered in the expectation that, once that agree-

ment was worked out, the Syrians would be willing to withdraw. Assurances were given to U.S. government officials that that would be the case."

"When the agreement was reached, however, the Syrians refused even to discuss withdrawal. Not only did they refuse to discuss withdrawal but, of course, they began instead progressively to foment and encourage violence by themselves, and the Druse, the Lebanese, the Palestinians and others. It became clear that the Syrians sought to impose a new solution by force. Neither the United States nor France nor Britain nor Italy had ever committed themselves to preventing the Syrians from imposing a solution by force."

"Later, confronted with the inability of the government of Lebanon to protect itself against the Syrian initiative, and seeing that the conditions appropriate to peace-

keeping did not exist, the partners to the MNF decided, basically, to withdraw and leave the government of Lebanon to fend for itself. A military solution was imposed by Syria, and it was imposed by force."

"The Syrians had superior force and they prevailed. In the process the government of Lebanon has to some extent lost its independence of action - not totally, but rather like Syria, which has lost some of its independence of action vis-a-vis the Soviets, who undoubtedly also play a spoiler's role in this whole equation."

"The clearest example, by the way, of the Soviets' spoiler role can be seen in their Security Council veto of February 29, which dramatized and symbolized the role the Soviets have been playing for many months in the UN, trying to block enhancement of the UN observer presence or the use of UN forces in Lebanon."

How did she react to the charge that Assad has come out the victor?

"I think he has."

I mentioned an Israeli view that the Saudis had reneged on their promise to deliver a Syrian withdrawal. Speaking carefully, like someone negotiating a minefield, Ambassador Kirkpatrick declared:

"I believe it is true that the Saudis and certain others encouraged the United States government to believe that Syria would consent to withdraw once there was an Israeli agreement to withdraw. And they encouraged the U.S. to believe that Saudi Arabia had various kinds of influence in Syria which could virtually ensure that development. Of course, it didn't happen..."

"When the chips were down, however, the other Arab states were finally content to suggest that Syria would do this after Israel had wholly withdrawn. But initially they indicated that they would do this after Israel had begun to withdraw or made an agreement and timetable to withdraw. I think the reaction to the May 17 agreement once again demonstrates hostility by a number of Israel's neighbors to any nation in the region accepting formally to live in peace with Israel. That is very clear. After all, what is so unacceptable about the May 17 agreement, except that it provides for normal, peaceful relations with Israel?"

DID THE PRESIDENT'S announcement that the U.S. would no longer take an active diplomatic role in Lebanon and that his special envoy Donald Rumsfeld was being sent back to the Middle East, mean stepped-up activity around the Reagan Plan? The ambassador thought the president would definitely like to help in appropriate ways to expand the peace process and work out mutually acceptable arrangements among Israel, the West Bank, Jordan and so forth.

Washington was aware that successful negotiations could only be undertaken and carried out with the desire of the parties most directly concerned, and with regard to King Hussein's equivocation she remarked that she had no doubt that the U.S. government "would be ready, willing and happy to assist in any way in helping to resolve those questions were the government of Jordan to indicate a willingness to undertake negotiations to that end. I think such talks could be either private or public."

Referring to recent reports of contacts at various levels of the U.S. foreign service with the PLO, I sought to ascertain whether U.S. policy had indeed changed in this matter. The ambassador spoke vehemently, declaring in no uncertain terms:

"No, there is no change in our policy." And she went on, "Let me say something to you in all candor: One, I had no knowledge of the indirect contacts with the PLO. Two, I have every reason to believe that the president would never have authorized such contacts, had the question been put to him. And three, although these contacts were actually undertaken, I don't think they constituted a violation of our

commitment, because they were indirect... But there has been no change in our policy, which was lately reaffirmed..."

"We are in touch with a lot of people who are in touch with the PLO. We are in touch with the Egyptians, the Tunisians, the Moroccans, the Saudis and, in fact, with a lot of governments which are regularly in contact with the PLO. And those governments provide us with information about the PLO. There's no question about that. But they are information activities and that does not mean that high-level State Department officials or ambassadors participate in any direct contacts."

From her vantage point, did she see any prospect of any other of our neighbors seeking to talk to us?

"I'm no expert on the Arab world, but I do talk to a great number of people. There are many who believe there are possibilities for better relations between Jordan and Israel. I've heard people who have said otherwise. But there are many people who believe that this is a reasonable possibility for the relatively near future."

Did that depend on the Israeli government?

"Well, obviously, it depends to an even greater degree on the Jordanian government, but to some extent on the Israeli government. I think that this is where the settlement policy comes into it, too. We think that an active settlements policy constitutes precisely an obstacle to this kind of positive development and influences the attitudes of the government of Jordan and those of other Arab nations."

"One has to face the fact that it is not fundamentally the policies of the government of Israel that has prevented peace between Israel and its neighbors, and negotiations for the settlement of outstanding disputes as provided for in UN Resolutions 242 and 338. It has been the unwillingness of Israel's neighbors to enter into negotiations. The first step, I think, toward some sort of resolution really has to be a willingness, at least, to enter into direct discussions."

Reverting to the withdrawal of the Marines from Beirut, I wondered whether the media projection of the matter had affected the world perception of the U.S. as a superpower. "We don't see that here... We had three partners in the MNF. And I think that there is a general misperception of the nature of the operation. We probably bear some responsibility for that misperception. There is this terrible tendency of our media to hype everything. The Lebanon operation was hyped beyond all conceivable relevance to its reality. It was perceived as a lot more important and different in character than it actually was from the beginning. So I suppose, that being the case, it may be perceived as much more important than its end."

"I think that there is a kind of growing sense on the part of many nations that the United States has entered into a sort of neo-isolationist period. I think that's relevant too, and is probably strengthened further by the events in

Lebanon."

I aired the fears of many people that the war in Lebanon might have negatively affected U.S.-Israel relations, particularly as far as public opinion was concerned. Ambassador Kirkpatrick thought that Israel was not getting a fair break in the American media. "But I think that it's observable much more broadly and continuously than that war itself. I believe that the principle reason for that is the unceasing propaganda campaign of the radical Arabs. It seeps into European media and American media. And I think that's dangerous for Israel."

As for the administration, Ambassador Kirkpatrick declared, "No, I think attitudes towards Israel inside the administration are relatively independent of such things."

I TRIED to ascertain how far the ambassador's expectations regarding the UN had been fulfilled since she took up her position in 1981 or whether it had proven one long disappointment.

"I think that there must be a determined effort by the democracies to expand their influence and effectiveness inside the UN. If they were to do that - and the United States above all - things could improve. That is not to say that the UN would ever be able to find peaceful solutions to international conflicts if one of the permanent members of the Security Council decides otherwise. But it could enhance somewhat the role of the UN. I think that's what we have to do. And that is, by the way, what we've been trying to do here at the U.S. mission for the past three years. I don't know whether you know about our efforts with regard to focusing publicity on UN behaviour. Have you seen the voting scores we have made public?"

I had, and recalled that Israel had topped the list of UN members who had supported the U.S. in 92 per cent of the votes. Warning to her theme, Ambassador Kirkpatrick went on:

"I have said that I believe that the U.S. can never restore its influence in the UN or protect the UN from the pressures of the tough, hard-ball politics of the Soviet bloc, unless and until we are willing to make our relations inside these multilateral arenas a piece with our bilateral relations - making clear that we really expect countries which are our friends outside the UN to behave like friends inside the UN, and that we do not understand when they do not."

"That's a doctrine of linkage, basically. And I think it's the only kind of policy that makes any sense. It's the only kind of policy that can produce moral results in the U.N. with which we can live."

Did she hear a responsive echo in Washington?

"It depends on who you're talking about," she replied. "I said I was talking about the White House."

"If you mean the president, yes. If you mean Secretary Shultz, yes. If you mean the bureaucratic establishment, the answer is yes and no - but more so than three years ago, when I first started talking about it."

Brutalization of society

By SHMUEL KATZ

closing of clinics and the restriction of services in the wards are justified in their eyes by their suddenly discovered plight. After five days, they announced, they would walk out of the hospitals altogether, presumably leaving patients without any attention at all. They did not reach the point of carrying out this threat. They were stopped by a court order, which - at least temporarily - sent them back to work. Maybe they would not have implemented the threat. But that hospital workers should allow it to pass their lips is a grave indictment, not only of these workers, but primarily of those who have allowed labour relations to reach this pass.

THE CHRONIC incidence of strikes in the public services has been allowed to spread, and is treated as though it were an irreversible act of God. The strikes' victims are always the innocent. At first only the national economy and the quality of life (El Al, electricity, broadcasting) were affected. Now we have direct disregard of the health and safety of specific people.

The trades unions and labour leaders have behaved throughout as though these specialist groups of strikers are in the same position as the original heroic pioneers of the strike: the oppressed, overworked, underpaid workers in the 19th century's predatory capitalistic society

(where there were no public services); and that their "right to strike" overrides every right of everybody else.

This is grotesque. Israeli workers are not oppressed. There is no reason, in equity or logic or by any civilized norms, why they should not submit their disputes to the judicial process - just as every other dispute in the state is not settled by brute force.

The Histadrut leaders, when asked why they refuse to promote the idea of compulsory arbitration, claim they are against it because "it won't work." When asked why it "won't work," their answer is "because we are against it."

They do, it is true, sometimes also add that compulsory arbitration is

beneficiaries of the strike system. When in power they shied away from what they saw as the formidable task of re-educating their constituency. They have presumably hoped the Likud would do the job by carrying out its electoral promise to institute national arbitration in essential services.

The Likud leaders, impressed by Labour's fears of resistance to legislative measures and by Labour's own threat to organize resistance to prospective Likud legislation, have lacked the civic courage to implement their undertakings.

THEY ARE wrong in their fears. The bulk of the people, who surely have suffered enough from the strike weapon, will be responsive to a lucid exposition of the same alternative of arbitration - grounded in the fairness and judicial capacity of Israel's judges.

Is Israel, spending one-third of its national budget on security, less on a war basis than Britain was? Does Israel's economic situation not demand industrial and social tranquillity as much as Britain's did?

The real reason for the Labour Party and trades union leaders' attitude is palpably not their concern for "poor workers whose only weapon is the strike" but simply their fear of antagonizing the

WHO WOULD have believed, as recently as five years ago, that a group of Orthodox Jews headed by the chief rabbi of the town, would be capable of marching belligerently into a cafe on a Shabbat morning, to violate the Sabbath with their own hands, breaking furniture, smashing windows and tearing doors from their hinges?

The cafe, it appears, is a quiet venue in Petah Tikva for elderly people who, after attending morning synagogue services, get together for a glass of tea and a game of dominoes. The incursion of the Orthodox group was evidently intended, however, less as a protest against the cafes being open than against the previous evening's cinema show in the town.

The Orthodox group has a case for its opposition to the opening of the cinema. The mayor's permit to the cinema owner had not yet received the necessary Ministry of Interior ratification, and, after all, there is the gentlemen's agreement between the Orthodox community and the non-Orthodox population on the status quo. That agreement provides for the maintenance of that degree of public observance of the Sabbath that obtained in the days of the British Mandate. The claim, admittedly put forward by the self-appointed (and selective) "defenders of civil rights," that everybody has an absolute right to do whatever he pleases on the Sabbath, is without moral foundation. It is in fact a claim to the right to destroy the status quo agreement, which predicated mutual concessions.

That is why, for example, it is agreed that we can watch football on Shabbat (in Petah Tikva as elsewhere) - no doubt causing sorrow to many more observant people - but also why there is almost no regular public transport. Despite its anomalies - some amusing, some irritating to one side or the other - the status quo of goodwill is enough to ensure peaceful maintenance. (In Petah Tikva you can go to a cinema on Sunday, but the law does not permit live performances - to the chagrin of many theatre-goers).

The provocative opening of a cinema on Friday night in Petah Tikva, where cinemas provide entertainment every other night of the week and where there was not even an obvious public demand, is an outrageous demand, is an outrageous demand, is an outrageous demand.

behaviour of the "invaders" of the cafe is significant of another trend developing in Israel. It is a sign of a kind of brutalization of our society. Brutalization is one of the hallmarks of our age, and television has brought some of its most extreme manifestations from all over the world into our living rooms as a fact of life. Yet there is one Israeli phenomenon that could have been prevented but for the partisan calculations of the political leadership of the nation.

LAST WEEK a member of the committee directing the strike of hospital workers claimed that he was reproached by a doctor at his hospital for causing suffering to sick people. He retorted: "You doctors taught us new norms of behaviour." Who, indeed, would have believed, even five years ago, that professional healers would be prepared, however justified their grievances over salaries, to let this affect the helpless human beings in their care?

In the spring of 1983, the doctors in all the medical services, throwing aside the norms of civilized behaviour and the constraints of the specific oath taken on entering the profession, held to ransom the utterly innocent community of the sick. True, many of the individual doctors were opposed to this behaviour, many succeeded in evading the orders of the strike leaders, and the committee did permit treatment where life was in danger. Who can tell (the doctors know they cannot tell) how much suffering and pain were caused, how much damage was done, how many lives were shortened by their three-month-long strike? Many or most of the doctors probably look back in genuine distress at that chapter in their lives. But not the least of their sins, as members of an elitist profession, was to ignore the inevitable power of their example.

TWO WEEKS ago the Tel Aviv firemen went on strike. All but one of their machines were immobilized. Questioned on the radio, one of their spokesmen nonchalantly confirmed that if a call for help came while that one machine was engaged elsewhere, nobody would go out to the second fire. Fortunately the strike was brief. Now we have the strike of non-medical hospital staff. They claim that they are entitled to the same pay as Kupat Holim Clalit sick fund workers. The



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LOCAL SUBSIDIARY of American Public Co. seeks investor for joint venture in South Africa. P.O.B. 15000, Tel. 03-72151.

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LUXURY KOSHER, short term rentals. "Associated". Tel. 02-431133.

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APRIL 6 through Pessah: 5 rooms with garden in Baka. 02-711151.

FRENCH HILL, Mass Haganavim, excellent, no agent, possible sale. Tel. 02-815924.

LOVELY KOSHER Passover: rental, 3½ furnished, Kiryat Moshe, Tel. 02-531240.

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PHYSICIAN FROM NEW YORK, age 45, handsome, fit, tall, financially secure, seeks full-figured, pretty woman, purpose marriage or living together, age 30-40. Give telephone. Photo would help. Astor Hotel, 03-223141, 8-10 a.m., room 547.

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Purchase

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UrgentSeeking full time: 1. typist/clerk; 2. driver. 03-774621.

3. Huge campaign for Pessach 12th graders and ex-army urgently needed. Meynad 2000. 4 Manager. Central bus station.

4. Company for the Development of the Region of Samaria. SBA Ltd. requires project manager for investment firm active in Judea and Samaria. to coordinate activities regarding land and organization of investments, economic and business administration background with experience. Tel. 052-39107, 052-39485

persons required
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perience. 03-659772 03-652077.

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 tality. 03-240664. *unpub.*

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ISRAEL will have to import most of its energy as oil or coal for at least another 15 years, spending many billions of dollars in the process. One of the best ways to reduce our imported fuel bill would be to encourage the expansion of nuclear power in Japan.

Does that sound like a *non sequitur*? Only to someone who has not been introduced to the controversial views of Prof. Fred Singer, the maverick economist and oil expert from the University of Virginia who is on one of his frequent visits to Israel. Singer expounded his views earlier this week to an audience of scholars, government officials and businessmen in the energy field, at a day-long seminar held by the Recanati Graduate School of Business Administration at the University of Tel Aviv.

Like other scholars who gain reputations as debunkers of the conventional wisdom in their fields, Singer did not start out as an economist. After a stint in the U.S. Navy, during which he visited Israel for the first time in 1952, he became a geophysicist. He served as Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Department of the Interior from 1967 to 1971 and dealt with natural resources, including oil.

He is self-taught in economics and started to write about the world oil scene before the Arab embargo of 1973/74. This event, however, propelled him to public notice when he voiced the view that the oil "shortages" of that time were more imaginary than real.

Singer's views on the past, present and future of oil prices can be grouped under several popular myths:

Myth Number One: The Arabs set the price of oil, and the consumer nations are therefore at their mercy. Singer stressed throughout the seminar that the price of oil is set by the dynamics of a world market, which operates according to pressures of supply and demand. Even if some factors in this market, such as OPEC and the producers on the Arabian Peninsula, have more influence than others in setting the price, this does not mean that they have a monopoly. OPEC and its Arab core still has to respond to actions taken by non-OPEC suppliers such as Mexico and Britain, with its North Sea oil.

On the demand side of the equation, the consumers, particularly the industrialized nations of the West and Japan, can also influence price movements by long-term actions such as increased conservation and major investments in alternative energy sources such as nuclear power, coal and gas.

The influence of supply and demand was evident even in the 1970s, following the quadrupling of the price of oil to \$12 a barrel in 1973, when OPEC displaced the major oil companies in making production

Spotting crude myths

By CHARLES HOFFMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

and price decisions in its respective member-countries. During the late 1970s the OPEC oil price for the most part merely followed the upward price movements on the "spot" or free market of buyers and sellers.

Singer's long-term prognosis is that in the next few years oil will drop from its current price level of about \$30 to around \$18-\$20. Then, towards the end of the decade, it will start to rise again, hitting the \$30 range by the end of the century. He also foresees the demise of the OPEC cartel.

This will occur, he said, because of "increased competition among producers in a shrinking oil market." The production in non-OPEC countries is expected to increase, and the industrialized countries will increase conservation and alternative energy production. He estimated that by the early 1990s the replacement of oil by other energy sources for the production of electricity, heat and steam could cut these countries' average daily consumption in half, from their present level of 40 million barrels per day.

Moreover, "the Western hemisphere will become largely independent of oil from overseas (by the 1990s) and the Middle East will become a less interesting place politically."

Since the price of oil for all consumers is set in a world market, Israel too will benefit from the drop in prices, caused in part, for instance, by a growing reliance in Japan on nuclear power.

Concerning the value of such a prognosis, based mainly on economic assumptions, Singer quoted the late physicist Niels Bohr to the effect that "it is difficult to make an accurate prediction, especially about the future." He is fully aware that unforeseen political and military events could "interfere" with the operations of the market.

Myth Number Two: The second price shock administered in 1979/80 by OPEC, which pushed the price to

\$34 a barrel, confirmed the Arab stranglehold on the world market. The Saudis made "two big mistakes" in this round of price rises, Singer argued. The Saudis have reserves that will last them about 50 years, and it is not in their interest to encourage their major customers, the industrialized nations, to switch to alternative energy sources.

But this is precisely what happened when oil prices went sailing through the \$30 barrier. Massive investments in nuclear power, coal-fired power and gas pipelines, such as the one being built from the Soviet Union to Europe, have since been made. Even if the price drops back to \$20 soon, the momentum of these investments will be practically impossible to reverse.

The initial price jump after the fall of the Shah of Iran created panic among western countries, who remembered the trauma of 1973, and started hoarding oil. This drove the price up even further, and convinced the Saudis that prices could keep going up by as much as 5 percent a year. This mistaken impression led them to cut production drastically from 11 million barrels a day to less than four million.

"Both of these Saudi decisions convinced their major customers to look for alternatives to oil, and in the long run they will cost the Arabs a great amount of money." Thus, far from confirming the Arabs' stranglehold, the 1979/80 price rise started the trend that may lead to a massive drop in demand for oil by the next decade by the industrialized countries.

Singer predicted several years ago that the \$34 price was too high, and events have proved him right. But it still seems a long way from \$30 to \$20, to which he expects the present price to tumble within a few years.

Should OPEC cut its prices, the industrialized countries would probably slap on new tariffs and taxes to keep the price to consumers up, since they are investing many billions of dollars now in alternative energy.

Myth Number Three: The 1973/74 embargo succeeded in creating massive shortages of oil products.

Anyone who remembers the long lines at the petrol pumps and the carless days of 10 years ago will be hard to convince that there was not a real shortage then.

Actually, said Singer, "the embargo was completely ineffective. The Saudis told the oil companies not to ship oil to the U.S. and to Holland. So the companies took the Arab oil to other terminals, and took other oil to the U.S. — they just exchanged one barrel for another."

"Embargoes don't work with commodities like oil or wheat which are sold in a world market and can be obtained from many suppliers. If an embargo were possible, the Arabs would have applied it long ago to Israel."

"People stood in line for their gasoline because the government regulated the supply and the price. The shortage was created by demand for oil exceeding the supply, which was sold at an artificially low price. The shortage would have disappeared if the price had been allowed to rise."

Singer recalled with a note of ruefulness tinged with irony that everyone, including the Israelis, swallowed the Arab line that the embargo equipped them with the invincible "oil weapon."

"The Arabs will never try to use it again because they know it won't work and they are afraid that everyone will learn the truth. Even Israeli politicians reinforce the myth when they advise the U.S. to stick to us despite the Arabs' oil might."

To illustrate his point that the effect of the embargo was largely psychological, he recalled that when the Iranian militants took over the U.S. embassy in Teheran, Carter announced that the U.S. would no longer buy Iranian oil. "But if Khomeini had declared an oil boycott of the U.S. — which amounts to the same thing — there would have been a panic."

IT IS EASY to understand why Singer's views are popular now in Israel, although he admitted that it was difficult for him to make his case here in 1974.

Singer is also a firm believer in the rationality of the free market. If it were up to him, he would do away with ministries of energy, which only foud things up by trying to do the regulation and planning that should be left to the market. (Singer serves as a senior fellow for national resources policy at the Heritage Institute in Washington, the conservative think tank.)

In the range of alternative fuels he discussed, the one that appeared to hold out the greatest short-term payoff for Israel was CWS, or coal-water slurry. This substitute for heavy oil or mazut has successfully passed experimental tests in the U.S. and will shortly be introduced into commercial use, Singer said.

CWS is composed of coal pulverized into tiny particles mixed with between 25 to 30 percent water. The resulting liquid has a viscosity similar to crude oil and can be efficiently transported by pipeline or tanker. If spilled, it is not as polluting as crude oil, and it will burn only when fired in a boiler. It produces no dust, and some of the sulphur, which causes pollution when burned, can be removed in the preparation process.

Since coal must be pulverized anyway before being burned, the preparation process adds little to the cost. CWS seemed to some of the experts in the audience to be more advantageous for Israel than coal, especially for industrial use, since it is less polluting and easier to handle.

Boost for the police

By ROBERT ROSENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

IN THE LAST three months the police have solved several crimes that had prompted public storms and accusations that the force is incompetent, or worse — unwilling to solve those mysteries.

Not surprisingly, morale is way up in the police force, especially among detectives who can count some major achievements since January 1:

- Three Eilon Moreh settlers were charged with the murder of 11-year-old Aisha el-Bach, slain after a rock-throwing demonstration in Nablus.

- Yona Avrushmi was charged with the murder of Emil Grunzweig and the wounding of 10 other people in the grenade attack on the Peace Now rally in February 1983.

- An underground cell that had plotted to sabotage the Dome of the Rock shrine on the Temple Mount was arrested.

- A group of Kach-affiliated U.S. citizens was arrested on suspicion of responsibility for vigilante actions in the West Bank, including the automatic weapons attack that wounded seven persons on an Arab-owned bus carrying workers to Israeli construction sites.

All of this came under the pressure of a press that at times seemed to be counting the days since the incidents; MKs charging that the police, or the security forces, or politicians, knew who was responsible for the various crimes and wouldn't act; and the publication of the Karp Report, which detailed police laxity in combating anti-Arab vigilantism by Jewish settlers in the West Bank.

"IT WASN'T THE public pressure," said a senior investigative source involved in the interrogations of the two groups arrested last week and dubbed the Terror Against Terror gangs. "It was professional pressure, our pride in our work that led to the discoveries."

It was even more than professional pride motivating the detectives from the Southern District and its subdistrict, Jerusalem. As Nitzav Yehoshua Caspi, commander of the Southern District, said, "It was the knowledge that if, for example, the Temple Mount had indeed been sabotaged, there would have been a jihad. And then our work would really have been cut out for us — and for all of Israel."

He was standing in the Russian Compound one night last week, viewing — along with some reporters and the detectives who made the discovery — a collection of grenades, explosives, arms and sabotage equipment that, in the hyperbolic words of one detective, "could have blown up half of Jerusalem."

One of the detectives there was Rav-Pakad Amiram Fahima, who headed the special investigation into the Temple Mount case. His work had been cut out for him since that chilly Thursday night in January when a Waqf (Moslem trust) guard chased off two shadowy figures seen near the Aksa mosque.

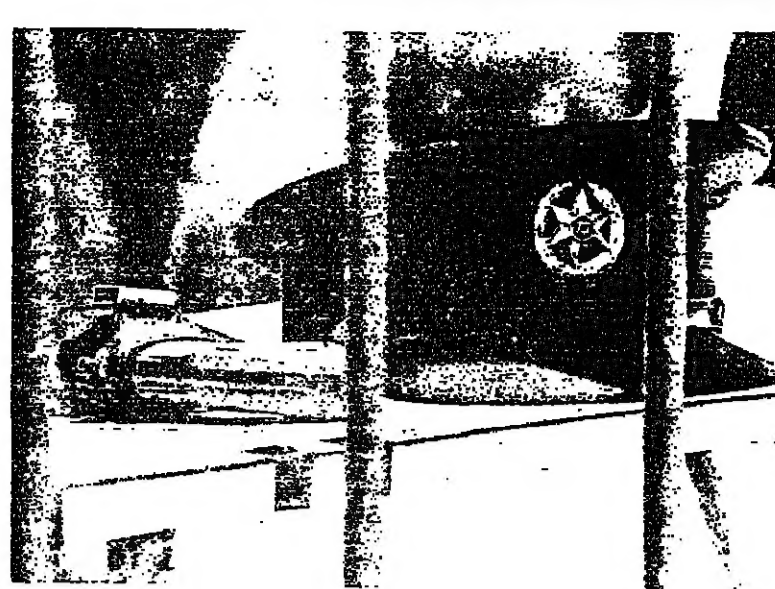
Discovered at the scene was an astonishing collection of grenades, explosives and other equipment. The aborted attack came on the heels of a series of grenade assaults and attempts on non-Jewish institutions in the Jerusalem area, and Fahima knew that a lot was riding on a successful solution to the case.

ALTHOUGH BOTH groups were being labelled "TNT" by the media last week, it is still not clear who was responsible for what in the series of other attacks against Arab, Christian or Moslem targets. In about half of the two dozen incidents — besides the Temple Mount attempt and the attack on the Arab bus — a caller told news agencies that "Terror Against Terror" claimed responsibility.

To Fahima, the strange bunch arrested for the bid to blow up the Dome of the Rock is "the Lifta gang" or "the Temple Mount gang."

These cultists combined mystic readings of the Bible with ceremonies learned during past stays at the Or Sameach yeshiva which specializes in bringing "wayward Jews" to the penitent life. At one time or another, all had studied there for periods up to two months but not necessarily together.

"They are ex-criminals who quote in bad Hebrew and incorrectly from the Bible," said one investigative officer this week. He said they began to cooperate with police when an officer scolded them for using a Bible published by a Christian group as their religious source. As opposed to the other group, the cult members are all Israeli, born here.



(Ishai Karlinisky)

They lived in a broken-down stone house in Mei Neftoah (also known as Lifta) at the entrance to Jerusalem, where they drank from the spring because they had no running water, and decorated their walls with a weird mélange of posters of Indian actresses, quotes from Rafael Eitan, graffiti describing the arrival of the Messiah and karate heroes.

Some of the popular press accounts have bordered on the same kind of sensationalism that accompanied the arrest of the Charles Manson group in California in the '60s. Tales of "purging through sex," obscure rituals involving walking backwards if necessary to face the sun, and other bizarre activity quickly filled the press after their arrest. The police have recorded all that, but as politicians and others began describing the group as "eccentrics," the police were quick to issue statements saying that no matter how weird a lifestyle the group lived, they were well-trained in the use of the explosives and well understood their purposes.

"The two key suspects in the attempt may be crazies, but they knew what they wanted — to obliterate the Moslem presence on the mount so that the Messiah would arrive. The motivations of those who supplied financing and supplies are a bit more complicated," according to one investigating officer. He was referring to a man in custody and two others still being sought by the police and the security services.

At least one of those three were the organizational brains behind the attempt, said the officer.

THE COINCIDENCE of the arrests of the Temple Mount group and the Kach members caught two hours after a shooting in which seven passengers on an Arab-owned bus were wounded, resulted in a lot of confusion. Police emphasized during the week, in the little information they handed out to the press, that the arrests were merely coincidental.

The Temple Mount case involved a lot of hard police work — which Fahima conducted right out of the books: checking the sources of all the material found on the site, carefully probing every lead, patiently waiting for intelligence breaks, lots of lab work.

In contrast, the Ramallah bus shooting was solved through a lucky break — an eyewitness managed to note a few numbers of the licence plate on the getaway car, a rented Subaru.

"If one had to describe each group, separately, it would come out something like this," said a source close to the inquiries. "The Kach group is motivated by a nationalist-religious xenophobia and hatred for Arabs combined with inferiority complexes surmounted by belonging to a group in which 'power' is the basis of the rhetoric."

"The Temple Mount group is motivated by a mystic-religious solipsism involving the hastening of the Messiah."

Indeed, that "psychological" description of the Kach suspects may be an understatement, phrased in academic terms to avoid having to say what he really thinks of both groups. Kahane's followers are not among the people that the police admire.

Long before any real headway was being made in any of the cases, in the days when it seemed to some that there was a direct connection between the bombings in June 1980 of the West Bank mayors and the more recent military-style attacks on non-Jewish institutions in the Jerusalem area, police were discounting the possibility that Kahane was behind the activities.

Indeed, even today, after five Kahane followers await charges and undergo interrogation, the police doubt that Kahane himself was directly involved in the planning of the attacks. Kahane has already said that he was opposed to the attacks because they were "procedurally wrong" rather than substantively wrong. He agrees with the strategy, it's the tactic he opposes. Because, as he told reporters last week, a "misguided" Israeli public isn't ready yet to provide the backing for such activities.

In any case, the current opinion among the detectives and plainclothesmen at work on the various cases is that there were at least two, if not three separate underground groups. One group, responsible for the West Bank mayors bombing, came together for that one action and dissolved. The second group, slightly more amateurish, pulled off the attack on the Islamic University of Hebron, in which three persons died and another dozen were wounded. And the third group — most amateurish of all but not incompetent — were responsible for the so-called Terror

Against Terror grenade attempts, in which three persons were wounded.

Kahane's people, according to the theory, were probably not capable of the most professional incident — the attack on the mayors. They might have been capable of the Islamic University attack, and there is evidence that they were responsible for the Ramallah attack.

The interrogation of the Kahane followers has already turned up a firebombing attempt on the offices of *Al Fajr*, an East Jerusalem newspaper.

THOSE REPORTERS and policemen who have had the unpleasant job of meeting occasionally with Kahane supporters generally come away from those confrontations with a bad taste in the mouth.

The youngsters from America — and Russia, for Kahane also appeals to a certain kind of Russian immigrant dissatisfied with the democratic processes here — spout the overt racism coined by their leader. Indeed, the attorney general has, in an official opinion, termed some of Kahane's rhetoric, Nazi-like.

One apt description of a Kahane follower was made by a police officer at the Russian Compound and went like this: "He's either too tall, too short, too fat or too thin, and derives his identity from the most extreme forms of chauvinism." Kahane appeals to them because he points to members of the coalition who, he says, "secretly agree" with him, and provide a legitimacy to his work.

Kahane is on his way to the U.S. this week to run a Jewish Defence League- and Kach-sponsored "Jews against (Jesse) Jackson" campaign, and to raise money for the defence of his four followers and others expected to be arrested as the interrogation continues.

A police officer at the Russian Compound, describing the Kahane "type," put it this way: "They come here to play cowboys and Indians."

"I DON'T BELIEVE," said the Russian Compound officer "that we've seen the end of the Jewish vigilantism phenomenon."

"Maybe the arrests will serve as a deterrent but probably not, because they could only serve as a deterrent for essentially normal people. The people we arrested last week are not 'normal' in the common sense. And this society is full of others like them."

"At best, things will be quiet for a while. And what worries me is that even if the amateurs get out of the Terror Against Terror business, the professionals — the types who carried out the attack on the West Bank mayors, for example — will remain. And they, my friend, are the most dangerous."

The successes of the last few weeks, and the uncovering of the various networks of vigilantism have at the very least improved the morale of those people at work on the West Bank mayors case.

"We've proven it can be done, that it's possible to arrest these types," said a police officer not directly involved in the West Bank mayors case, but familiar with the course of the investigation, which is entirely in the hands of the security services.

"In a way we were lucky, since our suspects were beyond the pale. They are at the fringes of society and therefore are without much political backing. In the West Bank mayors case, the suspects are probably a lot less vocal — or crazy — than the ones we caught now. They'll be types who go about their business quietly and keep their politics to themselves or within a small circle of friends. I'm ready to bet that when they're caught it will make a very big noise in the country because of who they are, because of their connections. The Temple Mount case, for example, created a sensation because of what they did and how they lived. The West Bank mayors case will make noise because of who the people are."

According to another source familiar with the investigation, the problem is evidence.

"Making the connection between the suspects and the incident. It's not enough to know in my guts who's responsible. I've got to be able to prove it, and prove it so strongly that once they're arrested I won't be forced to let them go. Because if I let them go, they'll get so much political protection that arresting them again as suspects will be almost impossible."

But the arrests of the last few weeks makes it seem much more likely now that there will be some progress in the West Bank mayors case. "See the source, quickly adding. 'Don't ask me when.'"

MINI-MUTINY

existence of the petition in Tel Aviv calling for Turgeeman's resignation and condemned the Police Officers Wives Association which announced yesterday that Ivizan should resign over "failure to back up the officers" under his command.

The policemen's wives, said Kubersky, "don't appoint or fire police officers."

Meanwhile, in Tiberias, Nitzav Zvi Bar, head of police operations, said that he is "convinced" that Hefetz did not leak the report to the newspaper. He called for a thorough investigation into the circumstances of that report and into what happened to the intelligence report Tel Aviv sent to Jerusalem.

Bar said that he had great respect for Hefetz and said that he "did not manage" to speak to Ivizan before Hefetz's dismissal. He added that Ivizan had no obligation to consult him on the dismissal.

Bar rejected news media reports that there was a war of succession

or a "war of generals" in the Israel Police. No one, he asserted, was handing out the inspector-general's position.

Bar stressed that, as chief of operations, he would certainly have known about any intelligence information concerning the Temple Mount, the security of which was his responsibility. But there had been no such information, he said.

In Tel Aviv, Hefetz's subordinates in the Rehov Dizengoff offices of the Central Department passed around the petition calling for Turgeeman's suspension. Sources inside the office said "the men stood around discussing the affair, refusing to work. They are still in shock about Assaf's suspension."

Hefetz, meanwhile, has had his police badge taken from him, as well as the police car he has used for the last 18 months as head of the unit. His salary has been cut to half.

Kubersky said that Burg would be back next Tuesday from Italy, where he is visiting Milan and Rome.

RABBI ZOHAR

(Continued from Page One)
what was described as a "unanimous decision," the council gave full backing to the town's two chief rabbis.

The council also declared that no compromise is possible over an issue as important as Sabbath desecration. Several Orthodox leaders have said that they find the present situation especially grave, because the Sabbath desecration is done publicly under the aegis of a municipal by-law.

The municipality, for its part, yesterday appeared as if, too, was not willing to back down over the issue of Sabbath commercial entertainment. Asked for a reaction about plans for even larger demonstrations outside City Hall, municipal spokesman Dan Ben-Canaan said it is the position of the municipality that everybody has a democratic right to demonstrate and to protest as long as this is done within the framework of the law. (See article — Page 5.)

Stamps honour 3 men

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Communications Ministry's Philatelic Services yesterday issued stamps in memory of soldier-politician Yigal Allon, poet Uri Zvi Greenberg and First Aliya pioneer Michael Halperin.

PRICE INDEX

(Continued from Page One)

level of some 12 to 15 per cent every month.

February's price increases were led by hikes in housing, 16.9 per cent (40.1 per cent in the last two months) and in food products, 13.3 per cent (32.2 since the beginning of the year).

On the other end of the scale, the slack in the market and the unusually fair weather were reflected in very small increases in the prices of clothes and footwear, 1.3 per cent (1.4 per cent in the last two months). Health services, which showed high increases last month, went up moderately in February, 8.8 per cent (31.7 per cent since December). The prices of educa-

Tax brackets	Monthly brackets from January-March 1984		Monthly tax April 1984	
	IS		IS	
25%	up to 58,800		up to 87,200	
35%	58,801-80,400		87,201-119,200	
45%	80,401-105,900		119,201-157,000	
50%	105,901-145,100		157,001-215,100	
60%	above 145,000		above 215,100	

Intelligence file didn't have Barda's photograph

By ROBERT ROSENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The intelligence material sent from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem last year did not include a photograph of Shimon Barda. Furthermore, according to Jerusalem sources who have seen the material, it was acted on twice by police working on the Terror Against Terror (TNT) case.

According to those officers, the report on Barda — who is still being sought as a suspect in the Temple Mount attempted-sabotage case — never mentioned the Temple Mount. However, these sources conceded yesterday for the first time that there was mention in the file of Barda's discussing "doing something about the monasteries and churches" in Jerusalem.

The Jerusalem police dismissed a Tel Aviv Police suggestion that Barda's phone be tapped, since Barda had "no phone." However, Special Operations officers did investigate Barda's activities after receiving the Tel Aviv material.

The file was reopened after the first of the attack on non-Jewish institutions in the capital late in 1983. But in neither case was anything substantial turned up.

Barda's name surfaced a third time, two and a half weeks ago, when Span-Nitzav Rafi Peled, the head of the Southern District Police intelligence branch, met with Rav-Pakad Amiram Fahima, the head of the investigation into the sabotage attempt on the Temple Mount.

Peled recalled Barda's name, and

suggested to Fahima yet another search of the Mei Neftoah (Lifta) area. Evidence found there combined with other material evidence and led to the arrest of the so-called Temple Mount gang.

The sources said the Jerusalem Police were still turning over the lack of the existence of the intelligence information — but not because of the leak itself, but rather because of its timing.

"If they knew that we should be looking for Barda, why didn't they say anything six weeks ago, when the investigating investigation began?" asked one officer.

Indeed, there were officers in the Russian Compound headquarters of the Jerusalem Police who were eager yesterday for a "real inquiry" into the intelligence information, what happened to it and who leaked the information. "We have nothing to be afraid of," said an officer at headquarters.

The same officer also wondered aloud: "How significant a piece of intelligence information could it have been if they didn't even have a photograph of the man?"

Meanwhile, police sources said yesterday that the entire affair of the intelligence information would not have occurred if the police files had been computerized. Only in December, for example, did the Jerusalem investigations department begin programming its computer with intelligence and investigative records.

Until at least the end of the sum-

RAFUL — Rafael Eitan — in his years as Chief of Staff made some controversial decisions, but one that gained universal approval was his setting up of army schools for illiterate and under-educated young men.

"Raful's schools," as everyone in the IDF knows them, provide thousands of 18-year-old recruits with eight-week courses in reading, writing, citizenship, Zionism, geography and history of Israel, as part of their basic training.

"From here they go on to serve in the IDF's fighting units, knowing why they are where they are and with a new sense of pride and self-confidence," says Sgan-Aluf Eliezer Yacov, the commander at the Givat Olga school.

"For all of these young men, these few weeks are a positive turning point in their lives. We convince them that they are capable of playing an important part in the armed forces and later in civilian life," Yacov adds.

That is an important achievement, as many of these teenagers joined the army feeling utterly useless in society, and were easy prey for the world of crime and drugs.

Now at any one time, hundreds of such young recruits are to be found at school desks at Givat Olga and the Goldmunz Centre in Netanya, places that were previously army seaside recreation camps. Another of Rafal's initiatives, the LIBI fund for financing army education, training and the acquisition of medical equipment, pays for eight similar schools located from Kiryat Shmona to Sha'ar Hanegev. Consequently, cuts in the Defence Ministry budget will not hit this educational effort.

To successfully run such schools is not simply a question of money. Since they were established in 1982,

Rafal's schools

By PAUL KOHN/Jerusalem Post Reporter

the army has learned how to tackle a tricky educational problem. The young men at the desks have come mainly from slum areas and underdeveloped moshavim. Their officers and teachers are careful to describe them as "marginal" youth. In blunter terms, they range from the totally illiterate to boys who were one of 10 or 12 children and had to leave school in order to go out to work and help supplement the family kitty.

In a class of five (most classes have 10 to 12 recruits) that we visited, the young men claimed 40 brothers and sisters. Ronni was a sanitary worker at a Hadera hospital before joining the army. "When I finish this course, I want to become an army medic," he told us. Gaby, one of eight children in Acre, was a factory hand and now wants to join the tank corps. Yehiel of Ashdod, one of 10, sees himself as a future paratrooper.

TO HEAR these men express their ambitions and talk about themselves is already enormous progress. Some came into uniform without the slightest idea about codes of civilized behaviour. They thought nothing of calling their female soldier teachers *bat zana* (daughter of a whore), "liar," or "fatso." Some were aggressive.

Quickly enough they learned that the women soldiers with their teacher ribbons on their shoulders — some of whom came from religious homes — are no softies at all. They are all volunteers for this job, were trained for it, and were

ready to take the rough with the smooth. They are both teachers and army commanders of the men.

Their job is a tough one. They get up at the same time as the soldiers at 5.30 a.m. and are with them all day until lights out at 10.30 p.m. The women maintain a rigid discipline with emphasis on spit and polish, parade ground and barrack inspections, flag raising ceremonies, and weekly route marches.

Some of the women instructors are graduates of teacher seminars and all are self-motivated to do this job. "At first many of the women get a nasty shock. They have come out of kibbutzim or easy going homes and are suddenly faced with offensive young men whom they have to teach 10 hours a day, not to mention additional hours," says Samal Tali, who has been at the Givat Olga school for nearly two years. But with patience and quiet firmness the women prevail. Eventually, many of the recruits look upon them as their guardians, with whom they maintain contact by letters, telephone and visits throughout their army service. It is gratifying to the teacher that their pupils go on to win NCO ranks and have even become commissioned officers.

THESE PAST WEEKS the soldiers were given a break from the blackboards and exercise books to harvest avocados and citrus fruits and to do maintenance work at homes of elderly people at the immigrant town of Or Akiva. The proceeds from the orange picking

was sent to the LIBI Fund.

It is a regular flow of donations of this kind that has turned LIBI into the biggest voluntary fund in Israel (not including lotteries). LIBI engages in fund-raising in Israel only, and it may surprise some to hear that Israelis are often as generous givers as Jews abroad. Aluf-Mishne Yehuda Bachar, the IDF assistant to LIBI chairman Israel Sacharov, says that despite the economic pinch the flow of donations had not dropped. Many of the big givers, in the \$50,000 or more bracket, wish to remain anonymous, Bachar said.

A major inflow is from persons who receive German reparations. One Ramat Hasharon lady recently contributed her DM 90,000 savings. But the most funds of all were generated by the "Libitron," run with the Broadcasting Authority, which in 24 hours last August yielded a handsome IS150 million. About 10 per cent of LIBI money is sent by donors from abroad, Bachar said.

"Donors know that every shekel of LIBI money goes directly and only to the uses specified by the fund," he said. Some contributors specify that they want their money to be earmarked for IDF medical purposes, and these LIBI funds have financed resuscitation systems fitted into rescue helicopters — extensively used during the fighting in Lebanon — the latest equipment for the treatment of burns, and physiotherapy facilities. The priorities for the acquisition of medical equipment is determined together with the Chief Medical Officer of the IDF.

The entire LIBI operation is run by four officers and a staff of several women soldiers at modest offices in the Kiryat in Tel Aviv. Policy is set by a public committee. The beneficiaries are soldiers and the wounded.

THE LISTS of donors to The Jerusalem Post funds are shrinking in length. Needs have most certainly not decreased. We know that in the minds of a lot of our readers, fund-raising is linked with Hanukka. Indeed, up until four years ago, this was more or less true.

The main thrust of our appeal for funds was Hanukka-oriented because we wanted to ensure that children in government institutions and in foster care received new toys for the holiday as did their more affluent peers.

Then, after we launched 'For-sake Me Not,' we realized that we could not limit our activities to any given time frame, because every day people become increasingly dependent on services for the aged.

The tightening government purse strings was another reason for expansion of Toy Fund allocations to take in the costs of the children's needs other than toys.

Response to both funds has been wonderful, but there is still an imbalance between what we have received by way of money and what has been forthcoming in terms of requests. Our resources are simply too inadequate for all the projects which deserve support.

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Sleeping partners

By EPHRAIM KISHON

at night to put a fresh layer of bioplacenta cream on her face. I never said anything, though, because I was afraid of hurting her feelings.

"DO YOU SLEEP on your back?" "That's what the doctor asked, too. He also said to try a hot footbath before retiring, but it didn't help. She kept waking me up. Gloria, and by the end of a week I was ready for the loonybin."

"I wonder you slept at all." "I didn't. On the eighth night I dozed off for maybe an hour, and then just lay there in the dark listening to Gloria's soft and steady breathing. Like a ruddy metro-nome. I told myself bitterly. Why the hell doesn't she snore too? And then it hit me..."

"You mean..." "Exactly. I bent over my metro-nome, gave her a good shake, and asked sweet as sweet: 'Do you know, my precious, that you're snoring fit to wake the dead yourself?' Gloria was flabbergasted. 'Me?' she kept repeating. 'Me, snore?' To be brief, that night I woke her up four times, and in the morning I went all contrite and told her it was my fault. I must have infected her."

"Poppycock. Snores aren't catching."

"You telling me? The more as

Gloria hadn't made a sound all night. No. I was just launching my counter-offensive."

"That's pretty heartless, you know."

"Uhu, but life's no bed of roses either. Well, I decided I'd better go on as I'd started, meaning I'd wake Gloria up every time before I could start snoring myself. The following night I only pretended to go to sleep, but actually I just lay there counting shekels leaping over the dollar. In half an hour, I thought to myself, I'll wake Gloria and tell her she ought to see an ear-nose-throat man."

"Gershon, you're a louse." "One does what one can. Still, I never got so far. After a mere 20 minutes, with me lying there wide awake, Gloria beat a tattoo on my chest. 'It's torment, Gersh, she wailed. 'Torment. It gets worse every night!'"

"You mean she, too..." "Yes. It turned out I'd never so much as sighed in my sleep, let alone snored. I mean, we had a great shouting match first, but in the end Gloria confessed I slept like a baby. She'd only started the whole thing because she was dying for separate bedrooms, but had been afraid to hurt my feelings. I told her it was the same with me, and we burst out laughing and fell into each other's arms. We went to sleep like that too, embraced like a couple of long-lost lovers who'd found one another again."

"Congratulations."

"WAIT, I HAVEN'T finished yet. That same night, with Gloria's head on my shoulder, smiling in her sleep, and I myself as happy as I hadn't been for days, she began to snore."

"No!" "Yes. Sort of with a rumble, too. Like a volcano. Well, picture the state I'm in: my darling wife lies in my arms snoring, and the last thing I can do is wake her, because it'll only seem as if I'm dragging out a stupid joke. She snores, but she'll never believe me if I tell her so."

"A proper fix."

"No kidding. Towards dawn I was ready to forget about separate bedrooms for good, and then — eureka!"

"You snored back?" "Loud and clear. It was the only legitimate way to wake her, right? I went grrr — whistle, grrr — whistle..."

"Good!" "Bad. Because Gloria was in exactly the same situation as me, figuring that if she woke me up, I wouldn't believe her. So she pretended not to hear me and feigned sleep, and that's how it's been with us every night since."

"A stalemate." "You said it. And the worst of it is that by now I'm not even sure any more whether Gloria fakes it with an eye to getting her separate bedroom after all, or is snoring for real. It drives me nuts, I tell you, nuts."

I LOOKED at the wedding rings under his eyes and took pity on him. "Listen," I said, "here's what you do: tonight when she starts snoring, wake her up and say you've simply got to move to a separate bedroom, the silence is killing you."

"But she knows she snores!" "How do you know she knows?"

"I don't feel very well," said Gershon, and got up to go. "Tell me," he asked as I was showing him out, "do you snore?"

"I wouldn't know," I told him. "My wife doesn't care for separate bedrooms."

I haven't seen Gershon since. Somehow I haven't been sleeping as well as I used to either.

Translated by Miriam Arad. By arrangement with Ma'ariv.

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THE NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

SOLUTIONS TO TODAY'S PUZZLE NEXT FRIDAY

By June A. Boggs/Puzzles Edited by Eugene T. Malesko

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Shares in dramatic turnaround

TEL AVIV. — The share market made a dramatic turnaround yesterday which came on the heels of one of the worst days of falling prices in recent memory. Statistics told the story quite clearly. On Wednesday 47 securities were "sellers only" for the second session. These equities were threatened by large losses. However, the sharp turnaround saved the day.

Yesterday only one issue was "sellers only" for the second session, with only three others being "sellers only" for the first time. However, 79 others could not be traded as a result of heavy demand and their prices were established five per cent higher without trading. These 79 "buyers only" shares contrasted with 115 issues which were "sellers only" on Wednesday. In addition, 92 were up by more than five per cent, as 69 fell by similar margins.

The trading turnover was under the \$1 billion mark. This indicated that the activity originated primarily with brokers and money managers, with the public still sitting on the sidelines.

The movement of the market as has been seen over the past week could well be setting an example of what one may expect in the near future. There may be repetitions of the volatile cycle with sharp upward movements followed by sell-offs.

The shekel was devalued by the minute margin of 22 agorot. It is likely that the level of devaluations

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

By JOSEPH MORGENSTERN

will begin to accelerate in the second half of March, if devaluations are to keep up with the rate of inflation. Last month devaluations were less than the 12 per cent inflation.

Bank shares part of the "agreement" traded unchanged, in spite of relatively heavy selling pressures.

The "non-agreement" bank shares did better. The Maritime Bank shares were both established as "buyers only." The Danot investment stocks, which were heavily sold earlier in the week, were unchanged in spite of continuous selling orders.

Mortgage bank issues were mixed with Binyan issuing 10 per cent, while Tefahot ordinary advanced by a similar amount.

Specialized financial institution issues were mostly higher, as the Confederation of Contractors was 10 per cent higher. Clal Leasing, however, saw its shares fall by 15 and 12.7 per cent.

Gains of up to 10 per cent were recorded by insurance stocks. Aryeh, which had fallen in each of the past four sessions by margins of 10 per cent, was established as "buyers only." Menorah 5 was 10.2

per cent higher, while Securitas picked up a gain of 9.8 per cent.

Gains of up to 10 per cent were recorded by service and trade issues. Yehalom Hotels, whose prices collapsed by 40 per cent on Wednesday, rebounded and wound up as "buyers only." The newly issued Inter-Gamma 5 shares were 7.2 per cent improved. In spite of the good upside action, there was one heavy loser in the group. Modal Cement was clipped for a 25.8 per cent fall.

Industrials were in good form and advanced by 2.9 per cent, on a sectoral basis.

High-technology issues had a good day. Elron chalked up a gain of 5.5 per cent, while Aris raced ahead by 10 per cent. Clal Electronics Industries wound up on the "buyers only" list.

Agan Chemicals, which had tumbled sharply, wound up as "buyers only." The option picked up 17.8 per cent. The shares of the Dead Sea Works were under selling pressure, but buyers picked up the shares without any change in price. Clal Industries became the object of good demand and the shares scored a 10 per cent gain.

Investment company shares were among the best performers. The Israel Corp. issues were both "buyers only." Newly issued Gahetet scored a 5.6 per cent gain over its issue price.

Most active stocks

Leumi	2300	69,531.3m.	n.c.
IDB	3600	68,521.7m.	n.c.
Hapoelim	3500	46,548.0m.	n.c.
Shares traded:	15,961,03m.		
Conventibles:	15,961,03m.		
Bonds:	15,420.9m.		

Bank of Israel exchange rates

March 15, 1984	IS
U.S. dollar	145.98
British sterling	213.45
German mark	56.630
French franc	18.361
Dutch guilder	50.148
Swiss franc	68.368
Swedish krona	18.991
Norwegian krona	19.558
Danish krone	15.466
Finnish mark	26.119
Canadian dollar	114.85
Australian dollar	140.73
South African rand	121.10
Belgian franc (10)	27.692
Austrian schilling (10)	80.430
Italian lire (1000)	91.038
Japanese yen (100)	65.141
Spanish peseta (100)	173.82
Portuguese escudo (100)	99.737
Spanish peseta (100)	99.737
Lebanese lira	27.030
Egyptian pound	127.37

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COUNTRY CURRENCY PURCHASE SALE PURCHASE SALE

U.S.A. DOLLAR 1 145.0749 146.8851 143.7900 148.9000

GREAT BRITAIN STERLING 1 211.9544 214.5991 210.0700 217.5400

GERMANY MARK 1 56.2087 56.9102 55.7100 57.6900

FRANCE FRANC 1 18.2598 18.4877 17.4600 18.7400

HOLLAND GULDEN 1 49.7684 50.3894 49.3200 51.0800

SWITZERLAND FRANC 1 67.8395 68.6860 67.2300 69.6300

SWEDEN KRONA 1 18.8519 19.0871 18.4400 19.3500

NORWAY KRONA 1 19.4288 19.6712 19.0000 19.9400

DENMARK KRONA 1 15.3526 15.5442 15.0100 15.7600

FINLAND MARK 1 25.9340 26.2576 25.3700 26.2600

CANADA DOLLAR 1 114.2771 115.7031 112.3500 117.2900

AUSTRALIA DOLLAR 1 139.8447 141.5896 133.6100 144.8200

SOUTH AFRICA RAND 1 120.2643 121.7650 101.3100 128.6200

BELGIUM FRANC 10 27.4763 27.8191 27.3700 27.9200

AUSTRIA SCHILLING 10 80.0192 81.0177 79.3100 82.1300

ITALY LIRE 1000 90.5586 91.6886 85.7100 92.9500

JAPAN YEN 1000 648.2345 656.3231 642.4900 665.3300

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OHK	1700	6	-64	+3.9
Maritime 0.1	699	b.o.l	+33	+5.0
Maritime 0.5	252	b.o.l	+12	-5.0
N. American 1	5961	26	n.c.	
N. American 5	1074	42	n.c.	
N. am. op. 1	3707	143	+160	+4.5
Danot 1	550	106	n.c.	
Danot 5	115	5067	n.c.	
Danot 5.1	284	501	-20	-15.0
First Int'l 0.5	425	b.o.l	+20	+4.9
FIBI 0.5	336	b.o.l	+16	-5.0

Commercial Banks

(part of "arrangement")

IDB p	116300	—	-1550	-1.2
IDB p	5255	1304	n.c.	
IDB p	5500	1	n.c.	
IDB p	33500	2	n.c.	
IDB op 11	3770	6521	-195	-4.9
Union 0.1	3930	70	n.c.	
Discount B r	6850	9	n.c.	
Discount A r	6740	171	n.c.	
Discount op 2	3300	504	-130	-7.5
Discount B c	800	483	-75	-6.1
Mizrahi r	2180	905	n.c.	
Mizrahi b	2260	2	n.c.	
Mizrahi op 11	4005	74	-180	-4.3
Mizrahi op 12	1600	49	-30	-1.8
Mizrahi op 6	18750	50	-3	-0.3
Mizrahi op 9	490	600	-60	-6.0
Hapoelim p	4545	—	—	—
Hapoelim r	3600	1293	n.c.	
Hapoelim b	3605	215	n.c.	
Hapoelim op 8	1300	900	-65	-5.0
General op 8	9200	100	-300	-3.2
General op 9	87900	1	-1200	-5.2
General op 11	7400	3	-100	-1.3
General op 7	460	19	-6	-1.3
Leumi 0.1	2300	3023	n.c.	
Leumi op 9	3250	6	n.c.	
Dev. Mortgage 1	3030	167	-300	-5.0
Finance Trade 1	1936	22	+176	+10.0
Finance Trade 2	3277	—	n.c.	

Mortgage Banks

Adanim 0.1	1305	8	n.c.	
Gen. Mortgage	1632	50	+10	+6
Gen. Mortgage	1622	2	n.c.	
Carmel r	1290	216	n.c.	
Carmel op	842	52	+32	+4.0
Carmel deb	205	208	n.c.	
Binyan	1697	36	-188	-10.0
Dev. Mortgage r	605	427	-14	-2.3
Dev. Mortgage b	643	—	—	—
Dev. Mortgage op	9505	61	-55	-8.5
Mishkan r	4380	35	n.c.	
Independence	2430	1	n.c.	
Tefahot p r	1510	1	+15	+1.0
Tefahot r	1363	93	+124	+10.0
Tefahot deb. 1	557	8	+27	+5.1
Tefahot deb. 2	138	13	-3	-0.3
Jaysour 1	261	170	-10	-3.7
Jaysour 5	251	14	-1	-0.4
Jaysour op	161	529	-20	-11.1
Menav r	340	b.o.l	+16	+4.9

Financial Institutions

Shilon r	192	b.o.l	+9	+4.9
Shilon op B	1699	—	+80	+4.9
Agriculture A	14000	—	n.c.	
Agriculture C	1237	—	n.c.	
Leumi Ind. r	1217	133	+50	+4.3
Leumi Ind. b	1201	5	-34	-2.9
Dev. Mortgage	8520	3	+130	+1.4
Dev. Mortgage 35700	—	—	—	—
Dev. Mortgage 21000	—	—	—	—
Dev. Mortgage 1	—	—	+400	+1.9
Dev. Mortgage 3528	—	—	—	—
Dev. Mortgage 6213	—	—	—	—
Constructors	140126	456	-16	-10.0
Tourism	401	521	-30	-10.0
Clal Lease 0.1	321	320	-1	-0.3
Clal Lease 0.5	315	243	-46	-12.7
Clal Lease 1	978	53	-11	-1.1

Insurance

Aryeh	441	811	-70	-14.6
Aryeh op deb	3424	—	+10	+3.0
Ararat 0.1 r	736	b.o.l	+35	+3.0
Ararat 0.5 b	21400	92	n.c.	
Reinsur 0.1 r	1045	112	n.c.	
Reinsur 0.5 r	363	246	n.c.	
Hadar 1	364	116	n.c.	
Hadar 5	170	b.o.l	+8	+4.9
Hasekkel op	490	—	+23	+4.9
Phoenix 0.1 r	1417	36	n.c.	
Phoenix 0.5 r	425	b.o.l	+20	+4.9
Hamishmar 1	600	93	-10	-1.6
Hamishmar 5	589	10	n.c.	
Hamishmar op	780	—	n.c.	
Yardenia 0.1 r	780	b.o.l	+16	+4.9
Yardenia 0.5 r	166	290	n.c.	
Yardenia op 2	120	168	-27	-18.4
Menorah 1	1449	2	n.c.	
Menorah 5	336	26	+31	+10.2
Securitas r	1395	22	n.c.	
Securitas op	623	22	+21	+9.8
Zur r	780	266	-35	-6.6
Zion Hold. 1	535	120	n.c.	
Zion Hold. 5	183	—	+8	+4.9

Hotels, Tourism

Galei Zohar 1	785	12	-70	-9.8
Galei Zohar 5	256	50	-22	-9.4
Dan Hotels 1	720	11	n.c.	
Dan Hotels 5	440	32	n.c.	
Coral Beach	325	608	-8	-2.5
Yarden Hotel	360	1	-1	-0.3
Yarden Hotel 5	275	138	-24	-8.6
Yarden Hotel op	124	57	+3	+2.5
Yehalom	185	b.o.l	+8	+4.8
Yehalom op	160	450	-45	-22.0

Computers

Data	257	63	+17	+7.1
Hilon 1	512	150	+30	+6.2
Hilon 5	788	—	n.c.	
Yatone op	1276	46	n.c.	
Yatone op	1000	20	-50	-4.8
Clal Comp.	561	199	n.c.	
Clal Comp. op	381	—	—	—
M.L.L. 1	1100	1	n.c.	
M.L.L. 5	520	18	+40	+8.3
M.L.L. op	337	—	—	—
Mashov	290	3	-14	-4.8
Nikuv 1	218	b.o.l	+15	+4.9
Nikuv 5	180	b.o.l	+8	+4.9
Nikuv op	185	90	-21	-12.8
Team 1	1230	4	-20	-1.6
Team op	940	—	—	—

Real Estate, Building

Phoenix 0.1 r	1417	36	n.c.	—
Phoenix 0.5 r	425	b.o.l	+20	+4.9
Hamishmar l	600	93	-10	-1.6
Hamishmar 5	589	10	n.c.	—
Hamishmar op	780	—	n.c.	—
Yardenia 0.1 r	343	b.o.l	+16	+4.9
Yardenia 0.5 r	166	290	n.c.	—
Yardenia op 2	120	168	-27	-18.4
Menorah l	1449	2	n.c.	—
Menorah 5	336	26	+31	+10.2

Ari Rath
Editor and
Managing Director

THE JERUSALEM
POST

Erwin Frenkel
Editor

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Adar II-12, 5744 • Jamadi Thani 12, 1404

Police in need of rescue

WHILE THE nation's police force is astir with mutinous rumblings, the 74-year-old minister who considers this department and his two full ministries as a part-time job, is abroad. Not that his presence would matter. The police has had to run itself for a long time with a vacuum at the top. Only until now the ruinous consequences of that vacuum were not fully on public display.

But this week, Inspector General Itzhan's inept and invidious response to a disclosure to the press brought the disorders in the police into vivid display.

Rent by internal conflicts, directed by an Inspector General who does not enjoy the confidence of his subordinates, and demoralized by a minister who delivers neither support nor direction, the police is in need of rescue. Only inertia and the dedication and skills of its officers and rank and file have enabled it to function despite the pathologies which invest it.

Perhaps the most salient expression of its malady was the decision by the Inspector General, which must have been approved by Dr. Burg, to engage in wholesale wire-tapping of police officers in order to discover the source of a leak to the press. Such disregard for the morale of the officers, for so petty a purpose, can only emerge when desperation contorts judgment. And that an officer, who clearly was not the source of the leak, was then the one suspended on the basis of a wire tap was a measure of the prevailing dementia.

In the past, wire-tapping inside the police was generally limited to cases where there were genuine suspicions of criminal or security offences. For it was recognized that while police officers were called upon to be discreet in their relations with the press, there could be no way of sealing them off from the public, nor in a democratic society should there be.

An Inspector General less absorbed by internal intrigues and a minister with more wisdom and more time to spare for his job would have understood the folly of such a departure.

Now the police and the nation must pay the price of the consequent turmoil. Yet as long as the highest priority is coalition politics, which dictates that Dr. Burg must retain his various part-time portfolios whatever the cost, the police and the nation can only steel themselves for further shocks.

Tami's opportunity

TAMI'S secretariat decided yesterday that the party would continue studying the question of whether and when to secede from the government.

For the moment, in other words, there will be no precipitate departure, despite Labour's insistent, almost desperate, urgings. But the idea of seceding, with a view to triggering early elections, is very pointedly and deliberately not ruled out.

This is the classic posture for a fence-sitting, balance-holding, small party to adopt. Purists may assail it with deprecatory epithets, and it is indeed not especially aesthetic to the outside eye. But it is a natural, almost inevitable, product of our political system.

Tami, genuinely uncomfortable — or believing its constituency to be genuinely uncomfortable — with the government's economic policy, is looking for the opportune moment and the apposite issue on which to walk out.

That is fair enough as far as it goes. But, after three years of modest but steady existence, Tami ought to be looking for something more: a genuine political identity.

The impetus that led to Tami's creation, real and imagined ethnic grievances and personal resentments, cannot sustain a serious political movement. The challenge and the opportunity for Tami to provide a real alternative grow greater as its rivals in the orthodox camp grow ever more extremist, the NRP in its politics and Aguda in its religion.

Tami leaders have a heritage of moderation and tolerance which they brought with them from their Diaspora. Mr. Aharon Abuhatzela, who continues to be the key figure in the party, and Mr. Aharon Uzan, are both moderates, too, in their political approach to the Israeli-Arab conflict — though neither of them has pressed the point while serving in the Likud-led government.

This blend of traditionalist and humanist thinking — alongside the concern for social issues — could be a platform broad enough to support the expansion of a transient socio-ethnic outburst into a meaningful political movement with a contribution to make to Israeli politics.

POSTSCRIPTS

PS RATS CAN become problem drinkers, says Dr. Gaylord Ellison, a professor of psychology at the University of California at Los Angeles.

His rats have their own private living quarters — burrows — an eating area and a recreational area, with ramps and ropes for climbing, as well as their own bar.

The bar contains six drinking spouts — three that provide an alcohol solution flavoured with anise and three that provide only water.

Ellison said his studies show most of the rats colony drink the "hard stuff" in moderation, but 9 per cent of the rats become problem drinkers.

"This is about the same percentage of problem drinkers as we find in human society," Ellison said. "Only a small percentage of the rat colony remain teetotalers."

His research showed the heavy

drinkers in the rat colony — not unlike their human counterparts — eat less than their mates, spend more time in their burrows, drink mostly in the morning and slip down the social scale.

When they could no longer obtain alcohol, the drunks in the rat colony became hyperactive, suggesting withdrawal symptoms. Ellison also found the heavy drinkers suffered significant liver and brain damage.

Ellison said his studies suggest rats raised in a social environment similar to that of humans can become dependent on alcohol, belying claims by other researchers that rats given alternative sources of food and water would not voluntarily consume enough alcohol to change their behaviour.

An important question awaiting further study, Ellison said, is whether rats become socially inferior because they drink too much or whether they drink too much because they are socially inferior.

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The Reagan appeal

By WOLF BLITZER

PRESIDENT Reagan showed some real political courage when he addressed 2,000 delegates attending the Young Leadership Conference of the United Jewish Appeal in Washington on Tuesday. He could very easily have avoided raising controversial issues which were bound to upset his audience — such as the proposed arms sales to Jordan and Saudi Arabia, a freeze on Israeli settlement activity on the West Bank and Gaza, the status of Jerusalem and his own ill-fated 1982 Arab-Israeli peace initiative.

But the president addressed those matters rather bluntly, making it clear that his administration was not about to hide the fact that serious differences on important issues remain between Washington and Jerusalem.

"All in all," Reagan affirmed, "the friendship between Israel and the United States is closer and stronger today than ever before, and I intend to keep it that way."

Yet even though the relationship has undoubtedly matured and improved over the years, there is still no disputing the fact that serious differences remain on today's agenda. For the Reagan administration right now, the two biggest problems involve efforts by Israel's best friends in Congress to force the transfer of the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem and to block the sales of Singer anti-aircraft missiles to Saudi Arabia and Jordan.

IN THE aftermath of the Lebanese debacle, the administration is anxiously seeking to shore up its standing with the moderate Arab world. Yet, U.S. officials said, Reagan is more than prepared to strengthen ties with Israel. This has been underlined by his willingness to formalize the strategic relationship with Israel, to open talks leading towards a free trade area between the two countries, and to convert all economic and military assistance to Israel into outright grants.

But, they added, he is expecting Israel and its supporters in Congress as well as in the Jewish community to

"meet him half way." In short, that means the administration does not want any confrontations on the arms sales to Jordan and Saudi Arabia. It also wants the Jerusalem bill dropped.

That is not likely to happen, and some automatic strains between the U.S. and Israel are bound to develop. But the fact that this is an election year will almost certainly ease any such tensions. Reagan, his political aides said, is unlikely to go too far in alienating a Jewish community which might prove to be a critical swing vote if the November election is close.

Lou Cannon, the respected White House correspondent of *The Washington Post*, quoted an unnamed administration official as explaining Reagan's readiness to even go as far as he did before the UJA group. The official noted that American-Israeli ties right now were so good that the president could afford "to deal with some of the issues that are not positive in the relationship."

THERE IS much truth in that statement — as evidenced by the enthusiastic reception that welcomed Reagan at the Young Leadership meeting. There were lengthy standing ovations both before and after the address. He was interrupted 18 times with applause.

A White House correspondent from one of the major U.S. television networks was clearly surprised by the very warm welcome. She asked an Israeli reporter why Reagan was so popular with the Jewish audience. There were several reasons. One, of course, was simply courtesy. The group was honoured and flattered that the president had accepted an invitation to address the meeting. But there was another, more important reason. As Reagan himself repeatedly said, the fact is that American-Israeli relations are indeed very good right now — probably better than ever before. Sure there are problems, but there always have been in the past, and probably always will be.

READERS' LETTERS

CONTRIBUTIONS TO ISRAEL

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post* Sir, — In the past several weeks, many letters have appeared on these pages in reference to a lavish wedding put on by a Member of the Knesset and extravagant foreign junkets taken by ministers and government officials. In most cases, the writer indicated that he must now reflect on his contribution to the Israel Campaign in light of such extravagance.

I might suggest to these people as a group that, if they need excuses to withhold contributions, these are not the first. Previous to the extravagance of some members of Knesset, the excuses were feelings of sympathy or antipathy towards Peace Now or the Jewish Defence League. Then there was the excuse of too much religion or too little religion in Israel, or pro-labour or anti-labour feelings. There is no end to the excuses possible if you are looking for reasons not to contribute. In a democratic society, there will always be at least two sides to every political, social or economic decision, there will also be those who, at their own expense and out of their own earnings, will throw lavish weddings, and MKs who will continue to travel first-class as do their counterparts in other democratic countries.

Instead of looking for reasons not to give, why not see what our contributions have helped to accomplish? Here we have a democratic country based on western principles that, in spite of being in a constant state of war for the past 35 years, has developed, with our aid, a first-class educational system, a country where no one goes hungry, and a state that has one of the highest health standards in the world.

Let us stop looking for excuses not to contribute, but stretch out and continue our partnership and give more, so that together we can maintain the humanitarian standards that we have helped to develop.

IRVING A. BAKER

Columbus, Ohio.

PENFRIENDS

BARBARA REEVES (17), of Wamai Valley, Road 2, Nguruwalia, New Zealand, lives on a sheep farm and would like to correspond with Israelis in order to more about our country.

VALERIA GENESINI (19), of 471 A Via Garibaldi, 44100 Ferrara, Italy, studies at a tourism institute and would like to have Israeli pen-friends.

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The delegates attending the conference were mostly in their 20s and 30s. In their local communities around the country, they are the real activists on Jewish issues, although their parents contribute more money. The people who assembled at the Washington Hilton Hotel this past week in a very real sense represent the future of Jewish leadership in the U.S.

On the whole, they are very bright, articulate, highly educated and fiercely pro-Israel, although only a handful might actually contemplate aliyah. They are very proud of their Jewish heritage and want to make certain that they meet the challenges facing the Jewish community today.

BY ALL accounts, Reagan will do well with those people who were at the conference this week as he will among Jews around the country. But the majority will probably still vote for his Democratic challenger.

Historically, of course, Jews have been closer to the Democratic Party. In recent years, there has been a greater Jewish readiness to join the Republican ranks, but that is still not as widespread as many conservatives would like.

What could hurt Reagan in the national Jewish community this year more than the particular state of U.S.-Israeli relations are his positions on a whole range of domestic social issues, such as abortions and prayers in schools. The president did not touch upon these issues during his carefully prepared speech, although he did stress the improvement in the American economy since he took office.

"Today," he said, "America's economic engine is pulling this nation forward again. Inflation is down from 12 per cent in 1980 to about 4 per cent. And the prime interest rate has fallen by almost half."

IF THE Jewish community were to vote strictly according to its pocketbook, Reagan no doubt would do very well this year. But the social consciousness of American Jews has been well documented, most recently in the March 14 edition of *The New York Times*. The new White House liaison to the Jewish community, Dr. Marshall Breger, was quoted there as saying: "Although Jewish voting patterns may have become more conservative, the Jewish community still does not vote its economic interest, and still is very concerned about social justice. But the national tragedy of a permanent underclass developed from the wel-

fare state programmes of the 1960s and 70s."

Breger, a 37-year-old Orthodox Jew, has established a reputation as an outspoken conservative on many social issues. He worked at the Heritage Foundation, a conservative think tank in Washington, before moving from the New York School of Law, where he teaches.

IT IS VIRTUALLY certain that Reagan will face a liberal in November — either former vice president Walter Mondale or Colorado Senator Gary Hart. They are currently in a heated race for their party's nomination, with the outcome still far from certain. Only the Rev. Jesse Jackson appears ready to remain in the contest for some additional time. Hart may have won Florida, Massachusetts and Rhode Island on "Super Tuesday," but Mondale captured Georgia and Alabama. Indications are growing that the final decision will probably not be clear until the actual party convention in San Francisco in July.

So far, Israeli officials are carefully trying to stay out of the U.S. battle. They don't want to be accused of interfering in domestic American politics — as was the case when then ambassador to Washington Yitzhak Rabin publicly tilted in favour of Richard Nixon over George McGovern in 1972; and when former defence minister Ezer Weizman boarded Jimmy Carter's campaign plane four years ago.

But whether Israel does in fact remain on the sidelines between now and November remains to be seen. Will the Israeli government feel more comfortable with a second-term Reagan in the White House, a hard-line anti-Soviet who has established his positions vis-à-vis Israel? Or will it want to see a first-term Democratic team take office, one

clearly more liberal in its domestic and foreign policy orientation?

THERE ARE certainly pros and cons, from the Israeli standpoint. A first-term president will most likely want to be re-elected four years down the road. A second-term Reagan is barred from seeking a third four years in the White House by the Constitution. Thus, will Reagan ride roughshod over Israel, not having to bother about re-election in 1988?

White House political operatives are feeling rather confident that the current Israeli government will eventually swing towards the president this year, and that that will have an impact on its American friends. How much, of course, remains to be seen.

The fight for Jewish support will be keen. In the course of his speech, Reagan raised a basic liberal/conservative issue — U.S. defence spending — by pointing to Israel: "Make no mistake," he said, "if we heed those who would cripple America's rebuilding programme, we will undermine our own security and the security of our closest friends like Israel — and I am not prepared to let that happen."

The implication was clear: both Mondale and Hart want to cut the Pentagon's budget. Reagan does not.

That logic has a greater appeal to Jewish voters nowadays, especially as they recall failures of the last Democratic administration of Jimmy Carter and the accompanying strains with Israel.

That should be translated into votes for Reagan. But there are many other issues which will affect the Jewish voter, making for a lively (and unpredictable) contest.

The writer is the Washington correspondent of The Jerusalem Post.

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